

Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXIV NO. 10 MARCH 10, 1994

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

Six Appeal: 6,000 Expected At Sixth Annual Dance-A-Thon

by Dennis Conkin

An estimated 6,000 people are set to dance to the music of Jade, Lonnie Gordon, and the Uncanny Alliance at Moscone Center on Saturday night, March 12, at the 6th Annual AIDS Dance-A-Thon.

The five-hour dance extravaganza benefits Mobilization Against AIDS and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and a portion of the funds raised will also go to eight other local AIDS service groups, including the Gay Asian and Pacific Alliance Community HIV Project, Shanti, and the Black Coalition on AIDS.

Last year's Dance-A-Thon raised almost \$1 million, brought in by dancers who received commitments of financial sponsorship for each hour they danced, from friends and co-workers.

The 1994 Dance-A-Thon is limited to pre-registered participants who bring a minimum of \$75 in contributions with them to turn in at the

door. Dancers who turn in \$250 or more will be awarded a Dance-A-Thon sweatshirt, featuring a full color graphic by Keith Haring.

The event, the largest dance party in Northern California, will be hosted by Oscar nominee Rosie Perez, MCA Recording artist Jody



Watley, and *Phantom of the Opera* star Davis Gaines, according to Craig Miller, co-producer of the event.

Along with his partner Richard Zeichik, Miller created the Dance-A-Thon fundraising concept in 1988, and Miller Zeichik and Associates still holds the production contract here in the Bay Area

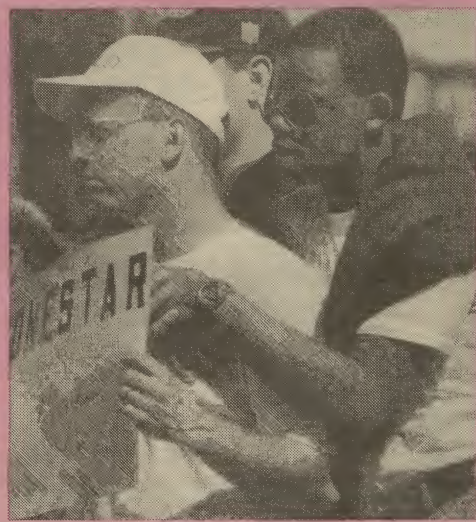
and more than a dozen other North American sites.

The annual event has become so popular in San Francisco that this year it has been moved to the Moscone Center's recently completed North Hall, part of the new Yerba Buena Project, according to Mike Shriver, executive director of Mobilization Against AIDS.

Although most of the funds raised after expenses will be split by MAA, The San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and Shanti, the seven other community-based service groups who are beneficiaries in the community grant program will receive grants ranging between \$10,000-25,000 for their programs, Shriver said.

Last year's AIDS Dance-A-Thon raised almost one million dollars and after expenses netted estimated \$500,000 for MAA and other beneficiaries, Shriver said. Miller Zeichik and Associates took \$95,000 as their producers' cut

(Continued on page 4)



Rites of (almost) spring

Two baseball fans enjoy Sunday's opening day ceremonies for the Gay Softball League. The event, held at Lang Field, drew more than 600 people, who cheered, laughed and generally had a great time.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

Violence in 1993: Fewer Gay and Lesbian Victims, yet More Violence

by Dennis Conkin

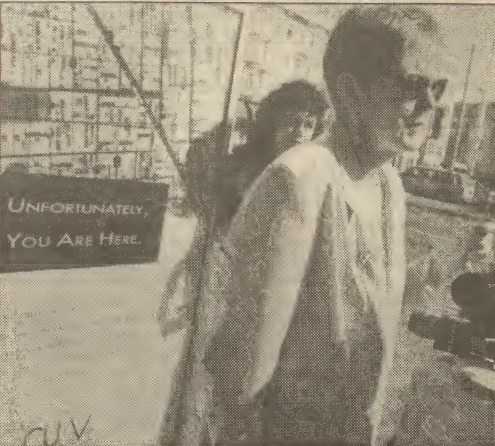
One quarter of the victims who reported anti-lesbian and anti-gay incidents to Community United Against Violence last year were physically injured in the assaults.

The grim statistic reflect a growing increase in the violence of anti-gay attacks, even though there was a 16 percent decrease in the number of incidents reported to CUAV during the last year.

"We're noting multiple offenses committed in incidents of anti-lesbian and gay violence, and there is a similar trend, nationally," said Lester Olmsted Rose, director of the anti violence agency.

There were 366 incidents reported to CUAV in 1993, down from 435 incidents reported in 1992 — but the number of reported offenses in the anti-lesbian or anti-gay incidents totaled 724, according to the annual report.

The report also notes that there was a 25 percent decrease in the number of primary victims who were the



Barbara Rezucha, a straight woman who was assaulted because her attackers thought she was a lesbian, speaks March 8 at a CUAV press conference releasing 1993 hate crime statistics in front of CUAV's new bus shelter ad campaign poster.

(Photo: Rick Gerhart)

subject of the anti-lesbian and anti-gay violence — or 397 victims, compared to 530 in 1992.

One-third of the physical

attacks took place in the Castro and Mission areas.

Topping the list of victimizations were 262 offenses involving anti-gay harassment, 260 physical assaults, and 122 threats of violence. The report also noted 12 sexual assaults and one arson attack.

"The statistics indicate that the problem of anti-lesbian and -gay violence is continuing, just as it has continued for years," said Olmsted-Rose. "This is just what's reported to us. It's a tiny portion of what's actually happening."

(Continued on page 16)

Judges: In California, Scouting Is a Business

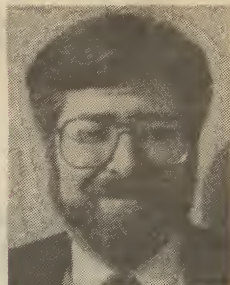
by Karen Ocamb

The three-judge panel of the 4th District Court of Appeal in Santa Ana ruled 2 to 1 February 28 that the Boy Scouts of America cannot exclude from membership two twins who do not believe in God.

The majority opinion was based on the twins' attorneys' argument that the Boy Scouts is a business, and is therefore subject to California's anti-discrimination Unruh Civil Rights Act. Dissenting Judge David Sills argued that the appeals court decision would undermine the Scouting tradition "which teaches duty to God and country and the virtues of order and discipline."

One of the Randall twins' attorneys is Jon Davidson, senior counsel with the ACLU of Southern California. Davidson is also lead attorney in gay Eagle Scout leader Tim Curran's case against the Scouts. An appellate decision in that case is expected shortly, he says. Davidson used the "business" argument in Curran's case as well.

"We're hopeful that this [the Randall decision] will have an effect on the judges considering of Tim's case," Davidson said in a March 1 phone interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*. "There are two issues in both cases. One is exactly the same: that the Boy Scouts is a business and is subject to being covered by the same anti-discrimination law that covers all business establishments. The Boy Scouts fought that, saying they're not a business and they should be allowed to dis-



ACLU attorney Jon Davidson.

criminate on any grounds their want."

The second issue is whether the Scouts can use the right of free association to justify their exclusionary policy. Along that line of thinking, the Boy Scouts can, and once did, exclude or segregate boys of color in their troops.

Although there is considerable information about religion in their literature, Davidson says, there is nothing written about sexuality, let alone homosexuality, which is deemed "not a matter for scouting." Therefore, Davidson says, "the judges' attitudes about homosexuality are being influenced" by the commonly perceived inextricable link between the Boy Scouts and "mom and apple pie."

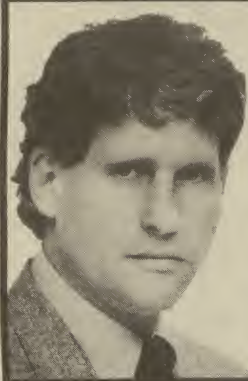
The Boy Scouts indicated it will appeal the decision in the Randalls' case. Davidson expects an appeal, regardless of the outcome in Curran's case as well. But in the meantime, he says, "this is a nice victory in the battles along the way. We're enjoying it." ▼

Inside

Don't forget: The Orange Juice Boycott starts this weekend! See page 21

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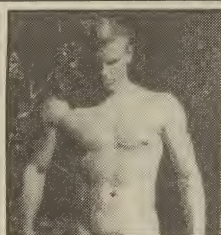


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Community News



Mary Payne (right), an RN at SFGH's AIDS Clinical Research Section, speaks of her worries about her patients, following the dismissal of all nine nurses in the section. Other nurses slated for lay-offs look on during the morning press conference. (Photo: Rick Gerhart)

SFGH Clinical Trial Nurses Get the Ax

by Dennis Conkin

The AIDS Research Unit at San Francisco General Hospital, site of AIDS clinical trials involving hundreds of San Franciscans, is laying off its entire UCSF nursing staff, a move that the director acknowledges will have a negative emotional impact on patients enrolled there.

"That's absolutely right. Some people have been in a trial for years, and it's going to be real hard for them emotionally," Dr. Mark Jacobson told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It's true, and I feel terrible about it."

Jacobson said the decision to lay off the entire staff of nine nurses and rebuild the department's staff from scratch, ending with three nurses and four clerks as a cost-saving measure, is due to a "budget shortfall" of an estimated \$400,000 at the unit.

The nurses will receive 30-day lay-off notices on Thursday, March 10, Jacobson said — and are eligible to apply for one of the three positions or transfer within the University system.

But, the nurses say, for them to transfer to other units would force other nurses

with less seniority in the system from those jobs.

"It feels pretty awful," says David Gary, R.N., BSN, a research nurse at the unit. "The position I'm in right now is that I have to bump another HIV caregiver, and I don't feel real comfortable with that. At the same time, if I don't do that, technically, I'm laid off."

The nurses also express reservations about whether clerical staff with no research background or prior experience will be able to understand, track, and capture the precise clinical data needed from hundreds of patients enrolled in an estimated 30 AIDS clinical trials, ranging from vaccines to chemotherapy at the unit.

"It's going to be a tough transition time. There could be a potential problem in terms of data collection," said Jacobson. Still, he believes that the clerical staff can be trained to be efficient in tracking data.

"We'll take that chance. Our alternative is to close all of the studies," Jacobson said.

UCSF had 1993 third-quarter profits of \$19 million, and a total profit for 1993 of over \$30 million, according to the

California Nurses Association, which has filed a grievance with the state's Public Employee's Retirement Board over the layoffs.

But, says Paul Volberding, director of the UCSF AIDS Programs at SFGH, the University is legally prohibited from using such funds generated by patient revenues and fees at UCSF Hospital to support the research program.

And, although Volberding also says there will be a transition time on the unit as it is reorganized, he believes there is no alternative to the restructuring — and sees no reason for research nurses to do tasks that clerks can do.

"We have to restructure to be more efficient," he said. "There's no reason for a nurse to be calling for lab results" or performing other tasks that are essentially clerical in nature.

The unit has a budget of an estimated \$1 million dollars a year, from funds generated by participation in the AIDS Clinical Trials Groups sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, as well as clinical trials sponsored by drug manufacturers. ▼

Poppers Are Popping Up Again

by Jim Provenzano

In last week's story about past and future San Francisco sex clubs, the *Bay Area Reporter* referred to comments made by an audience member about a bill now under consideration concerning the sale and use of nitrate-based inhalants, or poppers. The audience member had referred to lesbian Latina Supervisor Susan Leal as the author of the bill, a statement disputed by Bevan Duffy of Leal's office. In offering a clarification, he provided an opportunity to further discuss an issue that still concerns gay men and Health Department officials.

"Supervisor Leal has not introduced any legislation based upon criminalizing or prohibiting the use of poppers or related products," he said. "There are existing city ordinances prohibiting public use or use by minors, which was enacted several years ago. Based upon community requests, the supervisor has strictly looked at a draft proposal that potentially could tax establishments selling such products, in order to fund an education program around the use of poppers by

the city's AIDS office."

There was a time when poppers, those little bottles of highly aromatic chemicals in liquid form, were a fixture in the gay male community, where they were used as a sexual stimulant and as a party drug. That ended when some medical evidence, although anecdotal and not completely proven, implied that poppers and other inhalants (some high-hungry people resorted to making and buying leather upholstery cleaner or VCR head cleaner for the fumes they provide) can have a severe impact on a person's immune system, and may lead to co-factors in the progression of Kaposi's sarcoma lesions, particularly in the lungs.

The problem, Duffy said, is that "the medical evidence is not clearcut. Where are the studies? There's no empirical evidence."

Nevertheless, a federal ban on poppers went in effect in November, prohibiting certain chemical bases — which hasn't stopped the use of similar products that may be even worse for users' health. It's proof that, as Duffy said, often "bans don't work."

Using a more creative approach to the inhalant question, Leal's office has studied the possibility of requiring the sellers of such products to pay a fee that would fund Health Department efforts in outreach and prevention of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

And, Duffy reiterated, Leal had not proposed the law, but was merely considering a bill that is still up for voting.

"Supervisor Leal's office believes that unless there is a consensus, there should not be an invasive approach to fighting use of poppers," Duffy told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"The Coalition for Healthy Sex was consulted" about the issue, Duffy said. Some members of CHS have decided not to make a declarative statement about the use of poppers. In the meantime, Duffy said, Leal is concerned about "what we can do about a harmful drug."

His concern about "harm," and that of many other health officials, is that poppers can make users lose inhibitions and forget about safer sex. ▼



Hear us roar

In celebration of International Women's Day, Women Against Imperialism are sponsoring a 6 a.m. Dolores Park sunrise rally on Saturday, March 12; followed by a rally at 4 p.m. in Duboce Park and a subsequent march to Dolores Park at 5:30 p.m. A dance follows that evening at the Women's Building. On Sunday, March 13, "Older Women Take Center Stage: A Tribute to Our Wise Warriors" kicks off at 3 p.m. in the Audre Lorde room in the Women's Building.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

City Social Worker's Bigoted Memo Blasted

by Dennis Conkin

A memo from a Department of Social Services worker to his superior about homeless and low income street gays has been blasted by gay leaders for being both anti-gay and anti-African-American now that it has come to light.

The worker was involved in outreach to homeless persons as part of Mayor Frank Jordan's controversial Matrix program, which tries to match up indigent street dwellers with housing and other social services.

The two-page memo concerned the outreach worker's contacts last September near the South of Market multi-service center, and described the clients he contacted across the street from the 5th and Bryant site.

In the memo the worker describes the "handful of clients" encamping across the street from the shelter as "mainly Latino," and then proceeds to describe the remainder of the people he observed.

"Just a few gay black American clients who go there to spread germs through their tongues (French Style)," is how the memo describes the homeless African-Americans.

The memo surfaced on March 7 at a meeting of the Harvey Milk Lesbian, Gay,

and Bisexual Democratic Club, according to Jerry Windley, an aide to Supervisor Angela Alioto.

Reaction to the memo from The National Task Force on AIDS Prevention of Black and White Men Together was immediate.

"The memo may be taken by some to be racist and homophobic, and people displaying that attitude have no business outreaching to that population," said Tony Glover of the Brothers Network.

Glover also called the memo "AIDSphobic" and said that gay African-American homeless people who have HIV or AIDS need services, and "not that kind of insensitive attitude."

The Brothers Network conducts outreach to the 5th and Bryant multi-service center shelter and other homeless centers in San Francisco.

Supervisor Angela Alioto, who brought the memo to the attention of the media, denounced the outreach report as "absolutely appalling."

"It's shocking to find that kind of attitude from a city worker who is supposed to be helping homeless," she said.

Alioto called for an apology to the lesbian and gay and African-American communities by the Department of Social Services.

"It's unacceptable behavior and we took appropriate disciplinary action as soon as the



Supervisor Angela Alioto

memo was brought to my attention," said Jim Buick, director of homeless programs for Department of Social Services. Buick said the DSS serves a "diverse community" and that the social services agency conducts staff sensitivity training around cultural and lifestyle differences.

And, Buick said, of the four DSS workers assigned to the Matrix program, two of the individuals are gay.

"There were no previous incidents and there haven't been any since," Buick told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Because of the confidentiality of personnel matters, I can only say we took some action." ▼

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Community News

Planning Commission Hears Pros and Cons of Castro Bagelry

by Dennis Conkin

The San Francisco Planning Commission voted on Thursday, March 4, to recommend to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors that the HIV/AIDS Life Center and Noah's Bagels be allowed to apply for a conditional use permit at 400 Castro Street.

Supporters and opponents of the plans to turn a portion of the former Bank of America branch into a Noah's Bagels outlet, and use the rest of the facility for an AIDS service program operated by the University of California AIDS Health Project, testified at the Commission hearing.

Ann Krowler, a representative of Marcello's Pizza's, spoke of merchants' concerns.

"All of the [Castro area] merchants have seen hundreds of customers die. We're all aware of the decimating impact of AIDS in the Castro community. We do not debate the need for services," Krowler said.

Krowler told the commission that the merchants were bothered because they were not contacted about the proposed arrangement, and expressed concern over the financial impact on other neighborhood businesses.

Marcello's is located next door to the proposed Noah's Bagels outlet.

Maurice Darwish, a partner in the Cove Cafe, presented the Commission with signatures of several hundred business customers and residents opposed to the proposal.

Darwish expressed concerns that the site would act as a magnet and draw "homeless persons and troublemakers" to the Castro — which has suffered an increase in robberies, burglaries and other crimes. The most publicized recent Castro crime was the robbery/homicide of Steve Oh, a clerk at K.D.'s Grog and Grocery at 17th and Market.

According to James Dilley, AIDS Health Project executive director, the proposed site would draw an estimated 10,000 clients a year for services to the Center.

The AHP site will be the entry point for eight local agencies' intake, education, and referral services.

According to AHP deputy director Joanna Rinaldi, the site will also provide prevention and education services, as well as a confidential — but not anonymous — antibody test site. The difference is that confidential tests, unlike anonymous tests, require the recording of the identity of the test subject through a test number.

Rinaldi told the B.A.R. that the anonymous antibody



Many Castro merchants continue to oppose the plan to turn the now vacant building at 400 Castro into a site for Noah's Bagels and the Life Center.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

test site, now located at District Health Center 1, will not move from its 17th Street location, contrary to original claims by supporters.

"The increased foot traffic in the Castro will not have a negative environmental impact on the neighborhood," said Jean Paul Samaha, an

board for a vote. Hopefully, on the April 4th meeting it will pass the board. If that's the way it goes then they can apply for their building permit," Samaha said.

The building permit would then be scheduled for a hearing before the Planning Commission.

Under an arrangement with the Life Center, Noah's would pay \$120,000 for the renovation of 400 Castro, and lease the entire site for seven years at an estimated rent of \$5,000 a month, with an option to renew.

Noah's plan to use an estimated 1,500 square feet — or 20 percent of the site — for its retail operation. The Life Center will also spend \$100,000 in funds provided by the Mayor's Office of Community Development for renovation of the site.

The Bank of America will retain one automated teller machine — or eight percent of the site — leaving the Life Center with the remaining 66 percent of the facility with which to provide a range of centralized services including psychotherapy, information and referral services, antibody testing, and social service and support group programs for people with HIV and AIDS.

Golden Gate Performing Arts will also have a ticket booth on site.

The Life Center plans to retain use of the building for three years while awaiting the construction of its multi-AIDS service facility at Market and Noe streets.

Other merchants opposing the venture include The Elephant Walk, Hot and Hunky, Orphan Andy's restaurant, the South China Cafe, Mueller's Deli, Zapata's Taqueria, the Village Deli, and the Castro Cheesery. ▼

aide to Supervisor Terence Hallinan, who introduced the city ordinance that would allow the group to apply for the conditional use permit at the site.

"The Center will have a positive impact on the delis and other businesses in the Castro, and it will draw people to the Castro," Samaha told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The proposed ordinance allowing the joint venture will now go before the housing and land use committee of the Board of Supervisors for a hearing.

"Hopefully it will be heard by that committee on St Patrick's Day, March 17th and then it goes to the full

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Dance-A-Thon

(Continued from page 1)

of the 1993 Bay Area Dance-A-Thon, as they will this year. An annual audit of the costs of producing the dance party for 6,000 revellers will be available to interested participants and the public.

"We welcome questions about fiscal accountability and want to make sure the

money is well spent," Shriver told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"We've increased the community grant program this year. We have an obligation to our community and to people who have raised the funds to make sure that the money is well invested and that they know where the money that has been raised goes."

"This is our first year in such a large venue," he said. "We'll really be looking at the

results and costs overall, and will be reporting in our quarterly newsletter what we and all the agencies are doing with the funds that we raised."

Principal sponsors for this year's event are American Airlines, KMEL 106 Fm, and VIACOM Cable. Other sponsors include KTVU/Fox Channel 2, the *SF Weekly*, and Until There's A Cure — The Bracelet. ▼

Community News

Local Lesbians Resort to Sister Spirit

by Marghe Covino

Wanda Henson was in rare form the morning of Tuesday, March 2. She was speaking on the telephone, as she awaited the arrival of five Bay Area women — among them Lucy Galindo of Sacramento and Alison Gude, Bay Area activist and attorney — the first in a wave of women expected to go to the Mississippi Sister Spirit farm to help build a feminist retreat and educational/cultural center.

"I sure do appreciate you folks at the Bay Area Reporter," Wanda said, "you are my lifeline to the west." Wanda was referring to stories in the B.A.R. that have kept activists busy fundraising and organizing people to go to Overt and defend the land against attacks from homophobic — and armed — neighbors. She said that friends have been sending copies of the B.A.R. to them so they can keep up with outside events.

Camp Sister Spirit and its residents have been under increasing attack, despite the intervention of U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno. According to Wanda and her partner Brenda Henson, mediators from the Justice Department's Community Relations Service have said they are just there to observe and assess the situation, which doesn't provide much protection from attack.

Their Gulf Coast Women's Festival and their Food Closet have made the women familiar figures to the media in Gulfport and Biloxi. One of the radio figures who knew the Hensons from the coast has become news director at the local radio station, and sent a satellite crew to interview the women because they didn't want to travel the country roads at night. Wanda said he almost lost his job for ending the show with the tag line to bigots: "Call off your dogs."

However, the show did air on Sunday, and brought a call from a man who had shot 87 rounds in a half hour on or near the property. He asked to speak to "Miss Wanda," and said "You'll always live in fear as long as you're here." When Wanda told him that they would never leave, he responded, "I wouldn't be too sure about that." He then tried to goad them by saying, "Have you got a guilty conscience that you think people are shooting at you all the time?" He told Wanda that he could do anything he wanted to on his own land and that he was teaching his son target practice by shooting turtles.

"Imagine," Wanda said, "the mentality of using living creatures for target practice."

Wanda said, "Specific rednecks are coming forward to talk to us, but they're talking the stuff the preachers have fed them. Like the man who called us, I asked him if he was the man who came on our land on horseback and shot up the area behind the house. He said he wasn't but he knew who did it. When I said we could be good neighbors he was sure we couldn't because he doesn't want his kids to see us."

"These are the people the mediators need to see," Wanda said, "but the mediators won't be able to talk to them because they're afraid of educated people. These are the same people that laughed at



Wanda and Brenda Henson of Camp Sister Spirit in Overt, Mississippi. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Janet Reno and just know they won't get fair mediation from the federal government," she said.

Wanda also told the B.A.R. that now when the women go to local stores, "men are grabbing their genitals when they see us and making up and down motions with their fists." However, the day she was bracing for was Saturday, when a big barbecue, gospel sing and festival was scheduled at a local public school for a fundraiser.

"They're in their fifth name change," she said, referring to the homophobes' collective group identity. "Now

is available to women; men who come should have self-contained units like motor homes. "There's plenty of space for men to camp and park their motor homes and we have some facilities — we've even got a place picked out for a bath house if some of the brothers come down here and want to build one," she said. The women have been having a difficult time getting local officials to issue a permit for a septic tank installation and have finally received a permit from an outside agency.

Wanda said some people arrive with heaters and electric blankets and blow dryers, which is running up their utility bills. "And then there are some people who are real disappointed because they want to sit and process with us about what it's like to be on the edge of death. We simply

(Continued on page 28)

For 50 bucks a week, a visitor gets all the work they can do, a bunk, food, and exciting, shoot'em-up entertainment at night.

the group is being called 'Mississippi For Family Values' and the fundraiser will be held at the Glide Elementary School for the benefit of the 'Overt Defense Fund.' Wanda inquired as to the use of the school and told the person in charge that she was happy the public school could be rented out for these purposes — since she would like to hold a dance there. The response: "We don't allow dancing." Wanda said she'll get back to them when she needs to use the facility for an event.

Wanda is busy trying to organize defense for the land, and wants people to know about some unique problems that have occurred. "People have the mistaken notion that this is womyns land," she said, "but it's not. It's a job site and a feminist center. We can't afford to provide the board and utilities for people who come here." Wanda said people coming to the farm who use the utilities, eat the communal food, and use the bunkhouse that is available should expect to donate from \$35 to \$50 a week to Camp Sister Spirit. "I feel terrible that we can't support everyone who comes here," Wanda said, "but it's just not possible with the way our expenses have escalated." Reportedly the food is outstanding, prepared by "Adrienne," a retired chef from Stouffer's who now works at Sister Spirit.

Wanda said the bunkhouse

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BAY AREA REPORTER OPEN FORUM

VOL. XXIV NO. 10 MARCH 10, 1994

NEXT ISSUE OUT: MARCH 17, 1994

NEXT DEADLINE: MARCH 11, 1994

B.A.R.

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Editorial

A Community Center? What's a Community Center?

If we didn't know better we might think it was Lou Sheldon opening a roadside stand at the corner of Castro and 18th, instead of Noah's Bagels, a food vendor. We like bagels, and don't think of them as a threat to the community: we can't believe the store's presence will either bring in or drive out large groups of people, nor do we see it as the inevitable ruin of the neighborhood's other food merchants. (For those unaware of the story, and the controversy, see Dennis Conkin's article on page 4.)

This is not an endorsement for Noah's Bagels, by the way. If we were about to sing the praises of a perfect bagel — something we can do, but won't, here at least — Noah's is fine, but not the brand about which we'd rhapsodize.

It does seem fitting that, of all possible fast foods, bagels might be what brings a community center to the Castro. Fitting because, like bagels, community centers were humbly born under difficult circumstances and their success depends as much on the way the ingredients are mixed as on the ingredients themselves. And, to continue an admittedly silly analogy farther than we ever intended, both are undeniably better in New York than in Los Angeles.

Meaning no disrespect to our neighbors to the south, the New York Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center is one of the more exciting buildings in the world, the birthplace of ACT UP one evening when Larry Kramer and Martin Sheen and some others got up and railed at the system, just as if it were the French Revolution. It is a place where Governor Mario Cuomo could stand amid a hailstorm of abuse from activist Michael Petrelis and where, when that was over, neither felt at all unwelcome or unwilling to return. It is the center of a community that already considers itself the center of the universe. It's quite an accomplishment, made all the more so by the drive and determination that made it possible.

Unlike a lot of other civic buildings in New York, the community center wasn't simply donated to the city's lesbians and gays: it was sold at market rate by the Koch administration, necessitating huge mortgage payments — and insurance payments and architects' fees and building costs, and so forth. To make it happen, the citizens had to care deeply, or at least as deeply as they could reach into their pockets. And working so hard to make it happen also made it vital.

Los Angeles has a very nice community center that seems more sterile, possibly because it — like so much else there — is always a drive away, and therefore it seems kind of like a drive-through. Honest, we aren't trying to be bitchy, but we have to say if San Francisco is to have a community center we hope it will be more like the one they have in New York.

Creating our center in San Francisco may require some real effort — putting a sign on a building and opening its doors is only half the chore. It's like a computer or a VCR: simply plugging it in doesn't provide any fun. It's only when you put in the program or the tape — or the people — that it becomes exciting.

We urge you to think about the kind of community center you want, so that it may do more than simply reflect our diverse needs, but also respond to them. To you. It is a blessing that in these times when so much of our money already goes to the AIDS front, a business (Noah's or any other) might spare the community some of the expense of creating a center. But it would be a shame if anyone then thought because of its relatively modest cost it must be of little value.

What do you want your center to be? Think about it, talk it over with your friends. Or write to us, and tell us your ideas:

**The Bay Area Reporter
Community Center Ideas
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103**

If all the 400 Castro Street site becomes is another bureaucracy, or a bureaucracy of bureaucracies, it is wasted space, and we may regret its opening more than any bagel shop. ▼



Guest Opinion

Don't Drink and Ride, Either

by John Godges and Danny Jenkins

When we first heard about the AIDS Ride — the 7-day, 465-mile bike-a-thon from San Francisco to Los Angeles scheduled for May — we enthusiastically signed up and convinced others to join us, each committing to raise \$2,000 in pledges. The event seemed like an ideal way to promote the health and well-being of the lesbian and gay community. The riders will not only raise money for AIDS services in Los Angeles but also embody our community's resilience in the face of AIDS and our growing commitment to healthy living.

Then we learned that the AIDS Ride had accepted Tanqueray as its "exclusive presenter" and that the new logo, billboards, and T-shirts would credit the gin producer for the event — in exchange for Tanqueray's "donation" of \$170,000. One newsletter for riders declared, "We Love Tanqueray," and invited us to a party featuring free samples of our "now favorite gin." A subsequent newsletter boasted that "hundreds of riders" at this party had "strolled around ... sipping Tanqueray-spiked punch." This party effectively promoted drinking and riding.

If the purpose of the AIDS Ride is to promote the health and well-being of the lesbian and gay community, then sponsorship of the ride by any alcoholic beverage company contradicts that purpose in at least four ways: 1) the connections between alcohol consumption, HIV transmission and immunosuppression demonstrate the utter incompatibility of promoting alcoholic products while fighting AIDS; 2) the long-term health costs to our community of this kind of alcohol marketing outweigh the short-term benefits; 3) the Tanqueray sponsorship extends the alcohol industry's legacy of exploiting the "misery market" of communities on the social and economic margins, including the lesbian and gay community; and 4) commu-

nity health cannot improve as long as we continue to deny the social nature of alcohol consumption in our community; just as AIDS is a public health issue that leaves no room for blaming the individual, the high rate of alcohol consumption in the gay community also results from social patterns and should be treated as a social epidemic, not just as a matter of personal responsibility.

As a community pattern and not just an individual problem, high-risk alcohol consumption among lesbians and gays requires community-wide solutions. Only within the past decade have the Gay Games and Living Sober presented our community with healthier models of living and interacting. At the 1990 Vancouver Gay Games, the most popular social event was a smoke-free dance. Among the growing ranks of Living Sober and the multitude of 12-step programs in our community are individuals who protect one another from relapse. The California AIDS Ride should have been built on these models. Instead, we now embrace a gin producer and send out a bizarre message that associates drinking with community well-being.

The AIDS Ride sends a dangerously mixed message that leaves us with painfully mixed feelings. On the one hand, we hope the ride raises lots of money, and we certainly do not intend to sabotage the event nor dash the spirits of the riders whose lives will be enriched by the experience. On the other hand, we feel it is important to initiate in the lesbian and gay community an honest dialogue about the costs of our collective dependence on alcohol and about the responsibilities we have to one another to encourage healthier patterns of interacting. We hope that, as a community, we can learn from the lessons of the AIDS Ride so that in the future we can work together more productively and less ambiguously for the health of our community. ▼

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The *Bay Area Reporter* is printed on 100% recycled paper using soy-based inks.

Letters

Contingent From Hell

Let me see if I understand this clearly: Fred Phelps and his "christians" travel all the way from Iowa to disrupt Randy Shilts' funeral because they want us all to know that their deity "hates fags." They come to tell us all about their divinity's hate.

Then they taunt Randy's friends, family and community as a quiet, dignified farewell to this highly respected journalist is held at Glide Memorial. Phelps' people inform us that Randy was actually worthless and now resides "in hell." Everything is entirely peaceful and gentle here until they come marching in and ...

Oh, now I get it. It's actually Fred Phelps' contingent that is in hell. They've been concentrating on "hell" for so long that they've become a part of it, and all they can do now is try to drag the rest of us down into torment with them.

Van R. Ault
San Francisco

Ed. Note: Kansas, not Iowa, is Phelps's hell. Other than that, yes, you have it right.

Hallelujah! He is Saved!

An acquaintance of mine has shown me the article you published on the Rev. Phelps and in it you wanted a question answered: "where does he get the money to fly to San Francisco to picket?" He gets it from people like me, a recovering homosexual who daily thanks God that I am freed from the curse.

When I was nine years old, I was sexually abused by an uncle who if not a member of NAMBLA, should be. I was later dragged into a life of sexual perversion with homosexual men who used drugs (heroin) to keep me in their power. Only by the grace of God and will power I have broken free of the perversion.

Now, instead of having sex, money and drugs foisted on me, I have a good job and am in complete recovery from the abuse your community forced on me.

Your newspaper (I use the term loosely; it's hardly unbiased reporting) is full of sex ads and blatant attempts to corrupt those under the age of 25. You would find yourselves more accepted if you didn't so aggressively attempt to corrupt those of us who are just discovering our sexuality. You wanted to know where the money for the Rev. Phelps comes from? It comes from the people you have physically and emotionally abused.

Troy Lyons
San Francisco

Mainstream and Radical

Thanks for printing Luke Sissyfag's Clinton-bashing "Guest Opinion" of Feb. 24. It's important for the queer press to publish radical thought; it makes us think and keeps our leaders honest. It's also important to always remind Clinton that we are out here with such things as Sissyfag's zap on his speech. As he says, "things don't change unless they are pushed."

That being said, this more moderate queer finds a lot of holes in Sissyfag's reasoning. The biggest one is that George Bush's inactivity on AIDS is "irrelevant" in judging Clinton's progress on the issue to date. Bullshit. Due to the homophobic neglect of Reagan/Bush, HIV has a 12-year head start. Under the best of situations, change does not happen overnight. Expecting Clinton to make a complete turnaround in one year with a cranky congress and hundreds of other issues to deal with, plus 12 years of Republican neglect, is ridiculous. I know that patience is hard when you're dying, but neglect, like HIV, has a long incubation period. If a cure was found tomorrow, we would still be feeling the effects of Reagan/Bush for years to come.

Yes, Clinton proposed a "Manhattan Project" and no, we haven't really seen that yet. Guess what? Clinton overpromised. I think politicians have done that before. I think that Clinton wanted to do more, but ran into the brick wall of reality. As the military controversy showed us, congress is more homophobic than we thought. Plus, there's the budget. I think Clinton is doing what he can. That doesn't mean we stop demanding more, just that we be realistic.

Sissyfag ignores the component of the Clinton Health Plan that would make a major impact on the quality of life for people with HIV — universal coverage, with no denials for pre-existing conditions. I know that, for my HIV-positive friends, dealing with insurance swine is a major hassle that certainly does not do their health much good. If universal coverage passed, life would be easier for them and everybody else. We should be working with Clinton on this one gang.

I think that part of queer disillusionment with Clinton stems from unreasonable expectations that some had. It was so nice to elect a president who wanted to include us, who didn't openly hate us, we hoped he would give us the world. Didn't happen. Clinton is not a progressive in the vanguard of pro-gay thought. He's a sympathetic moderate. And, guess what? Right now, that's the best we're going to do. Any presidential candidate anywhere to the left of Clinton is unelectable in the current political climate. Let's deal with it. Don't let up on Clinton, but don't forget the carrot as well as the stick. Otherwise, he's likely to say, "The hell with 'em" and with all the shit he gets from all sides of the political spectrum, who could blame him?

Sissyfag's insistence on seeing anyone who disagrees with his opinions or uses other methods as evil, stupid or traitorous. Sigh. Once again, we see the horrible queer tendency to eat our own. Both mainstream and radical activists have got to realize that both methods are needed. We need to work inside and outside. We need Luke Sissyfag and Barney Frank. And above all, we need to work together.

Steve Omlid
San Francisco

Discontinuance, Please

That Orland Outland should lampoon a gossip columnist and reduce your paper to the level of the *National Enquirer* is one thing. That he/she should be permitted to attack Randy Shilts and be published on the day of his death is quite another.

Mr. Shilts' contribution to AIDS and gay politics separate him from the cowardly smut that cannot even contain the correct name of its writer.

I suggest at least an apology from the editor for allowing this article to appear and, at best, a discontinuance of this column which does nothing but lower the standards of your paper.

Shame on you.

Henry Loosmore
San Francisco

Ed. Note: As we pointed out last week, the column is turned in on Saturday and physically printed by Tuesday evening. The entire paper is printed, assembled and distributed Wednesday, the time Shilts was dying.

And for the record, Orland Outland is his real name.

Embezzled

Let me preface my complaining by saying I have been a fan of the world's premiere leather columnist, Mr. Marcus, long before I moved to San Francisco. His veracity, tell-it-like-it-is, in-your-face coverage of leather/SM/bears/royalty and bike clubs has earned him the honor and respect he enjoys in the gay and lesbian community. He has no peer.

On the other hand, his tendency to make the leather/SM community and all of its sub-cultures look good in print may have some bearing on the fact that he ignores the failings of some people and some efforts undertaken by countless volunteers and paid people.

After reading last year's coverage of Bear Expo '93 and being on the verge of becoming a bear myself, I decided I would explore this year's Bear Expo '94. Certainly, the people attending from all over the world were "bears" and I fit in without any problems.

I was extremely embarrassed, however, when it came to the International Mr. Bear competition. As Mr. Marcus reported, it was a triumphant endeavor; hot contestants, great entertainment and the winner, Michael Myhand, is certainly no slouch. However, I was somewhat confused by Marcus' reporting "... there were bear groups from at least 44 states and 3 foreign countries and emcee Larry Rivera was in good form ..." What Mr. Marcus neglected to say is that Ben Bruner, the alleged "founder" of the bear movement, blundered through a number of states and countries, not even remembering who was present and asking aloud to the audience "Are there any guys here from Berlin? or Australia?" etc., not even sure who was present.

Larry Rivera may be revered in certain bear circles, but his emcee'ing was inept, poorly timed and hesitant — not even pronouncing the contestants' names correctly. I have seen other emcees (Lenny Broberg, Mr. Marcus himself, Don Thompson and Irwin Kane to mention only a few) survive the pitfalls and rigors of emcee'ing major events with aplomb. Rivera bombed this time.

The seminars, market, food and parties were great. But for the people from around the world to be subjected to the amateurish repartee of an emcee more intent on his own ego as the emcee — surely San Francisco can put on a better show. Ben Bruner was so hokey, it was just plain boring. Maybe next year, Bear Expo's organizers will try to put on a better contest in a more professional manner. This was plain amateurish. We bears deserve better.

Benjamin Armatrout
San Francisco

Tremendous

To the San Francisco gay community, we would like to take this opportunity to say thanks for the tremendous success you have helped us realize on our opening (Jan. 1st) and second night of business (Jan. 8th). When we conceptualized Clvb Empire, we did it believing that there were those of us that were desirous of an alternative to the current Saturday night dance scene. Your continued support will ensure that Clvb Empire will be around for a long, long time.

We feel it is important to emphasize the Clvb Empire is your club and if there is anything we can do to make your experience more enjoyable and memorable, please let us know. Again, many heartfelt thanks for your support and endless wishes of good will and success in our endeavors.

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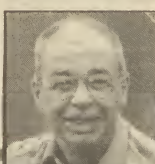
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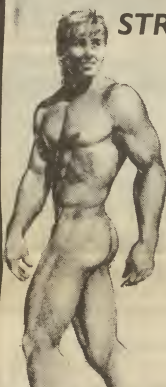
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Letters

Innovative Neglect

When I came to San Francisco nearly three years ago, I had had little experience or knowledge of the AIDS epidemic. I had been living in Palo Alto and was a member of a women's peace organization, the Peninsula Chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. We were more concerned with people suffering abroad than with the suffering here at home.

I remember my increasing sense of shock and painful concern as I met people here who worked tirelessly to control the pandemic and bring the spread of HIV to a halt. I met many people who are HIV-positive. I admire and respect these people.

Last Thanksgiving, I had the experience of living in the same house with a person with full-blown HIV. The non-profit corporation which manages the house decided — amazingly — to rent the basement unit, comprising a bedroom and bath, to a 44-year-old man afflicted with chronic dementia and intermittent myopathy. I opposed this man's tenancy; the landlord summoned police to help settle the sick tenant in his rooms on Nov. 27, 1993.

The tenant, desperately ill, returned to his home in Atlanta in the middle of Feb. 1994. An account of the many police calls and 5150 decisions putting the tenant into Langley Porter and the psych ward at SF General would be superfluous now. In retrospect, the whole ordeal of 2½ months seems a nightmare.

The landlord simply dumped this tenant, departed and bothered no more with him. I tried to get competent help. Last week, I was describing this ghastly situation to a local pharmacist who asked me kindly, "Was there a visiting nurse?"

No, there was no visiting nurse. I am appalled at the brutal neglect of this unfortunate man and at the tragic isolation that he endured. Aren't non-profits supposed to be benevolent?

The name of the non-profit corporation is Innovative Housing. If anyone should want to call, their number is (415) 626-6314.

Constance E. Kuruppu
San Francisco

Need Support, Not Ignorance

In response to Steve Hunter's letter titled "Gender Illusions," it should have been titled "Gay Delusion." Steve, I question your perceptions regarding the "apathy" of lesbians toward "half the human race." It is true that there are lesbians who choose not to interact with men. The reality, however, is that if lesbians removed themselves from the AIDS movement, from social services and from any or all of the helping professions, the system would literally fall apart. So, if a lesbian chooses not to give her life for the betterment of men, she is defined as apathetic?

I am tired of educating men — especially gay men — on female oppression. And no, I'm not another man-hating dyke. I have sincerely tried to have friendships with men (probably because of a conditioned response) and I end up feeling disappointed and frustrated. I am trying to find a place of compassion in my heart for men. As individuals, I can and do find that compassion. As for "half of the human race," whom most still won't recognize their oppression over wimmin, I don't.

I am sick of hearing men whine about wimmin not caring enough. Wimmin, historically, have been carrying the load for mankind much too long. How much time, energy and money has the gay community put into breast cancer, ovarian cancer, shelters for battered wimmin and children? I am not saying that energy shouldn't go towards AIDS. What I am saying is that the oppression towards wimmin is staggering and we need your support, not your ignorant and self-absorbed misconceptions about "apathetic" lesbians.

I applaud Jay Davidson's letter (the one that was printed above yours). He wrote in concern and support for what is happening to two lesbians in Mississippi. He also acknowledged the energy that lesbians have put towards the gay community and asked for reciprocity. Perhaps you could look him up and do some consciousness-raising "man to man."

Falling Star
Willits, CA

The Author's Self-Indulgence

I'm not sure what it takes to qualify as a "book reviewer" for the B.A.R., but judging by Jeffrey Kennedy's recent review of Diana Ross's autobiography, "bitchiness" seems to be the prevailing qualification.

It is one thing to have an opinion — I suppose that is what reviewers are paid to do: give their opinions. But in the case of Kennedy, his opinion of Ross's book was so tainted by his obvious disdain and blatant bias against Ross, that it lacks any believability.

Mr. Kennedy seemed to miss the whole point of an autobiography: it's all about the author's self-indulgence telling her life story in her own words, in her own way, according to her own perceptions. It's all about the author's slant on her own life. It's not about "confronting charges leveled against her" or feeding the gossip mill.

Some celebs go the route of a "kiss and tell," others go for the "this is my philosophy of life route" (a la Shirley MacLaine). Sorry, Mr. Kennedy, if Diana Ross's story didn't feed into your pre-conceived, narrow-sighted ideas of what an autobiography should

say. I guess you would have liked it better had it been titled: *Why I Pushed Mary Wilson Off Stage*.

Actually, what prompted this letter was not Mr. Kennedy's smug tone or biased reviewing, it was his outrageous comment that because Ross is married to a Norwegian, doesn't have a soulful voice like Aretha Franklin, and, as a Supreme, was always so prim and proper that she is perceived as "Being too white." Mr. Kennedy seemed shocked that Ross would, in fact, be a proud African-American woman in touch with her roots.

So, does that mean that in order to be truly Black you need to sound and look like Aretha Franklin? What, then, does that mean for gays? Is there a prototype, a standard? Is there such a thing as being "not gay enough?" "Too gay?" Really, Mr. Kennedy, now who's the "unabashed egomaniac?"

Craig Garr
San Francisco

Too, Too

The issues of homelessness/poverty/racism/sexism is much too complex (not to mention volatile) to be adequately addressed in one or two sentences here. However, I do wish to respond to one point made in the letter by D. David Hale (B.A.R., Feb. 17) trashing our esteemed mayor.

In making reference to the "homeless," he states that there are "countless groups huddled daily with nothing to do..." My, my! Mr. Hale, are you aware that City College of San Francisco (Mission Branch) offers many tuition-free classes, daytime and evenings, in a variety of job-related subjects? Too challenging, you say. Hmmm, Mr. Hale, are you aware that Glide Memorial Church offers free computer classes on site? Too technical you say. Mr. Hale, are you aware that the Main Library downtown is still open occasionally. Hmmm, totally illiterate you say. Mr. Hale, are you aware that most museums in this city offer free entrance days to the public on a regular basis? Oakland Museum of Art is always free to the public and is a true pleasure to visit. Hmmm. No interest in art or the numerous ethnic festivals celebrated in this city, or the periodic street fairs — oh well.

I am reminded of the whining beggar that accosted me in the Castro district recently who demanded money for food. Upon being given a list of places that provide meals for thousands each day, he responded that all were "too far." Hmmm, I guess his powers of teleportation had just given out and stranded him where he stood.

Robert Geiwitz
San Francisco

His Straight Hair Had No Appeal

The best Theatre Rhinoceros production in ages is now playing in the Studio (through Feb. 13). I'm writing to say, *don't miss it!* Unfortunately, you and also the *Sentinel* failed to review this significant gay play, despite a nice article about it and playwright George Birimisa before it opened.

The Man With Straight Hair is funny, moving and a loving and perceptive portrait of gay life in New York City in those bad old days before Stonewall. It is excellently directed by Paul Sagan and superbly acted by Darrow Carson, Kever Ryle, Carol Avery and Christina Gomez.

Markley Morris
San Francisco

Ed. Note: Mr. Morris, in point of fact, the B.A.R. did send a reviewer to see *The Man With The Straight Hair* and he found the play so distasteful he didn't think it worth writing about. Apparently opinions do vary, widely.

Sick Joke

A few weeks ago on KGO Radio, Jim Eason said: "I don't think I could ever bring myself to lick an AIDS stamp." I was driving along and came close to driving off the road. Either he is uneducated or he was making a very sick joke.

As for the seven Bay Area residents arrested at Altamont Pass rest area who included an Antioch priest, I heard the total number of arrests in the sweeps were more than 38.

Willard Newton
Orinda, CA

Write to 'B.A.R.'

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes your letters to the editor. Letters must be signed; anonymous letters will not be published. Please include your mailing address and telephone number so we may verify your letter—this information will not be published.

In order to print as many views as possible, we ask letter writers to be brief. To promote diversity in the Open Forum, we favor letters from writers who do not appear frequently, over repeated correspondence from a single author.

We prefer that letters be typewritten and double-spaced. Hand-written letters will be considered for publication only if clearly legible.

Letters may be edited for length or other appropriate considerations. B.A.R. reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter.

... And Throw Away the Key

Despite the California senate's overwhelming vote (29-7) last week to send Governor Pete Wilson a strong "three strikes and you're out" bill that would mandate life in prison for three-time violent felon offenders, and despite Wilson's immediate swipe of the pen to sign the legislation into law, sponsors of an initiative that duplicates the bill are pressing to have it put to the voters in the November election. The sponsors have decided that they need the strong anti-crime law verified by voters as well as the legislature, because voter-approved initiatives take precedence over statutes enacted by lawmakers and some backers of the law are worried that the legislation passed last week in Sacramento might somehow not be as strong as the one that appears on the ballot.

Politicians from both parties have been caught up in the "lock 'em up" frenzy of 1994 election year politics, and some candidates have taken to making statements that appear designed to further frighten and worry the

after the veiled suggestion that the funds would go to fight for the initiative, those being solicited for money were asked to send their checks to the "Lungren for Re-election" campaign.

Incidentally, San Francisco's two state senators, Democrat Milton Marks and Independent Quentin Kopp, voted against the three strikes bill last week, citing a number of reasons, among them the expense factor (the cost of building the necessary prisons alone has been estimated at \$21 billion plus over the next 20 years).

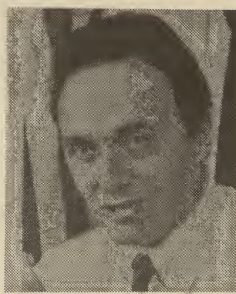
Politics and people

When newspapers reported recently that the SF district attorney and the police were investigating the possible loss of big bucks in parking revenues at Candlestick, Supervisor Tom Hsieh, the chair of the Supervisors Budget Committee, reasonably enough requested a routine audit of Tax Collector Thad Brown's office to see if it was doing all it could to collect whatever taxes *might* be owed (it's done all the time at city departments and agencies). Supes Angela Alioto and Sue Bierman, clearly reacting to fears that their action might somehow be seen as racist (Brown is a prominent African-American), refused to go along. The latest example of "Profiles in Courage" at Silly Hall?

Move over Oprah and Sally Jesse — and get ready for the Willie Brown talk show. Speaker Willie goes on the air March 14 with a weekday morning show on Sacramento's KCRATV for a 13-week tryout to be continued if the ratings justify it. Does it sound like fun? Well, Willie challenged a studio audience at the show's first taping to "get ready to be challenged, aroused [?] and motivated."

The Pentagon's new policy on gays in the military took effect last week with a revised set of guidelines being issued to commanders in the field. The revisions make clear that the Department of Defense judges "suitability of persons to serve in the armed forces on the basis of conduct, not sexual orientation," according to a Pentagon spokesperson. The revisions do not change the policy of "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue."

Well, all right! The Ventura, California, city council last week repealed a 26-year-old law prohibiting club owners from allowing people of the same sex to dance together. And in New Orleans, state



Attorney General Dan Lungren.

"Lungren ... is manipulating, misunderstanding, misreading, misrepresenting..."
— San Jose Mercury News

senator Marc Morial, the 36-year-old son of the late former Mayor Ernest "Dutch" Morial and an African-American, won Saturday's mayoral runoff in a bitter, racially charged battle, despite being labeled, among other things, "bisexual" by opponents.

Quentin Kopp told Bruce Pettit on his Viacom interview show that "no way" would he endorse Dianne Feinstein this year, and although he had many complimentary things to say about her likely GOP opponent Michael Huffington, the "Q" fell far short of endorsing him. Kopp said it was "far too early" to talk about the next mayoral race, but he did say that those thinking of running would be fools to write off Frank Jordan, despite his continuing political troubles.

Friends of Tom Ammann are holding a fundraiser/reception for the supe candidate tomorrow night (Friday, March 11, 6-8 p.m.) at 122 Liberty Street. Donations of \$25 and up are requested. Call 288-2662 or 821-3729 for info.

The many friends of Dick "Bewitched" Sargent here should know that the actor/gay activist is seriously ill in Hollywood with prostate cancer. Sargent, one of the nicest celebs I've met, spent months campaigning for Feinstein.

It's St. Patrick's time again, and that means the annual beef between New York City's lesbian/gay community and the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the homophobic organizers of the big St. Pat's Fifth Avenue Parade, is on. In the

(Continued on page 11)

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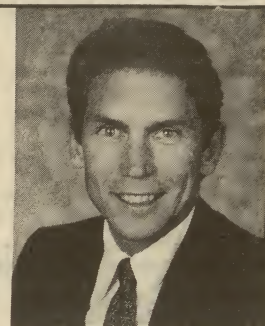
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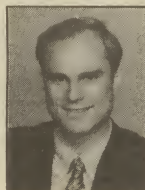


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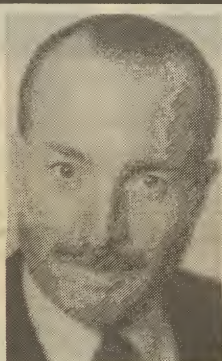
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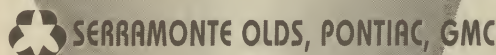
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Not So Impromptu...

by Nancy Boutilier

A couple of years ago my mother phoned to tell me about two great movies she had seen. Intrigued by the life of George Sand, Mom was determined to see *Impromptu*. She found a theater that was showing it as part of a double-feature by pairing it with a sneak preview of a new film.

Having enjoyed *Impromptu*, Mom almost didn't stick around for the second film. She decided to give it a go and, that evening, phoned me to recommend two movies: *Impromptu* and *Thelma and Louise*.

I took her advice on *Thelma and Louise* right away, but only got to *Impromptu* last week.

What a treat it was! Judy Davis is captivating as George Sand, and the film's portrait of the rebel writer arriving at literary salons in trousers had me wanting to learn more about this woman who prompted the 19th-century Russian novelist Ivan Turgenev to remark, "What a brave man she was, and what a good woman!"

The real life Sand, born Amantine-Lucile-Aurore Dupin, was admired by the likes of Whitman, Flaubert, and Elizabeth Barrett Browning, though perhaps best known for her cross-dressing and cigar-smoking in 19th-century literary salons.

Sand's own journals reveal a willingness to use both the masculine and the feminine when referring to herself.

Commentary

Some biographers have portrayed her gender-bending as liberated, while others have viewed it as a means of survival.

Naturally, a woman in trousers in France at that time, particularly one who was an unapologetic adulteress, invited allegations of all sorts. Sand's relationships with men are well recorded, and her affair with Chopin is the focal point of *Impromptu*.

My plunge into her biographies revealed that the sexual component of her relationships with women is harder to come by. The strongest case for her bisexuality seems to be her relationship with actress Marie Dorval. It was one of Dorval's male lovers, the poet Alfred de Vigny, who referred to Sand as "that damned lesbian"—which puts either Sand or Roberta Achterberg (or both) in excellent company.

Anyway, I enjoyed *Impromptu* even without any reference to Sand's affairs with women. There's an exhilaration to the way she flies in the face of convention. The film explores gender roles without making the frail and feminine hero Chopin or the strong and masculine heroine pay for their transgressions. The two find space to be who they are and to love as they love.

While biographers paint a more painful and complex picture of her life than the film, Sand, by virtue of her status as an artist, seems to have found privilege and pro-

tection in her eccentricities. The scandal attached to her name — often more based upon rumor than Sand's own behavior — served only to make her all the more fashionable a guest to have at a party.

A RuPaul in reverse, Sand may have benefited from a 19th-century relative of contemporary Lesbian Chic; let's call it Trendy Transvestism of Avant-Garde Androgyny. Despite the scandals surrounding her trousers and smoking, Sand was popular in her day and rarely espoused a political philosophy that challenged the status quo as much as her personal appearance.

At a time when French feminists were calling for the woman's vote, Sand was remarkable un-allied with most of the feminist positions. Little that Sand did filtered down to the average woman.

It's not so different today. If a few performers, artistic types, play with gender-bending, well, most people write it off as a publicity stunt, attention seeking, or just good theater.

No Sand in Nebraska

But, what passes as gender-bending in one life may be central to identity in another person's life, and it may carry a different price. Tolerance for gender ambiguity is a lot narrower than the media or the fashion industry would have us think. While designers and advertisers push all sorts of gender transgressions for those who can afford to keep up with the latest urban trends, the recent murder of Teena Brandon may be the clearest reminder that cross-dressing can be life-threatening.

Teena Brandon, a 21-year-old transsexual who went by the name Brandon Teena, had been living in Humboldt, Nebraska in the fall of 1993 when she met Lana Tisdel, 19, at a party. Passing as a

Following
the arrest,
Brandon
was "outed"
as a female
in the local
newspaper.

young man, Brandon began dating Tisdel.

While responding to a citation on suspicion of being a minor in possession of alcohol, Brandon was arrested on forgery charges. Tisdel paid the bail, and noticed that Brandon had been held in a women's cell. Brandon is reported to have told Tisdel of undergoing hormone treatments to become a man following the arrest. Brandon was "outed" as a female in the local newspaper's court report.

Soon after, John Lotter, 22, and Marvin Nissen, 21 — friends of Tisdel who had befriended Brandon when they thought she was a man — allegedly began a pattern of harassment that started when they stripped Brandon before Tisdel on Christmas Eve to prove that she was female.



19th-century French writer
George Sand.

Later that evening, the two allegedly abducted Brandon, and beat and raped her.

Despite Brandon's hospital treatment and the police report that followed these events, the two men remained free of charges. On New Year's Eve, these two men allegedly broke into the house where Brandon was sleeping and shot Brandon along with the other two in the house at the time, Brandon's friends Lisa Lambert and Phillip DeVine.

Apparently, the local authorities didn't feel they had enough evidence to charge Lotter and Nissen with the rape until after the murder. Furthermore, they reportedly failed to see any connection between Brandon's sexual identity and the killing.

The alleged rape suggests that the killers thought of Brandon as a woman rather than a transsexual or a man. It remains unclear whether they believed they were punishing a woman for living as a man, for trying to be someone they deemed she was not, or for dating someone of the same biological sex. It is clear, however, that in our culture all three of these acts remain taboo in our culture. And depending upon one's circumstances, the penalty for trespassing may be very high indeed.

George Sand's literary talent and economic independence bought her the privilege of individually transgressing in public, much like the way Boy George and Madonna can in our culture. Only when enough people start feeling a filter-down effect or hearing an explicit political message in the art does the backlash kick in.

Brandon Teena was not protected by class status or fame. John Lotter and Marvin Nissen did not need to hear a political message to feel threatened and to feel justified in their violence. I suspect they just didn't like the idea of someone so different from them living so close to home.

The next time I see a glossy, marketable reference to androgyny, cross-dressing, or transsexuals, I will remember to place it in a larger context — a context of privilege and safety. The next time I hear reference to "women born women," I will remember Brandon Teena and be sure to let individuals define themselves for themselves.

While k.d. lang and Cindy Crawford can collect for their fun little subversive spoof of Norman Rockwell's America on the cover of *Vanity Fair*, cross-dressed seduction still does not play well in Nebraska.

Teena Brandon, Lisa Lambert, and Phillip DeVine paid the highest price of all. ▼

GLAAD Media Watch

A Kiss Is Still a (Heterosexist) Kiss

by Al Kielwasser

The much-awaited "lesbian kiss" episode of *Roseanne* (March 1) finally beamed across the globe. The program had become mired in controversy following reports that ABC intended to censor the episode. Series producers Roseanne and Tom Arnold began a media blitz and the television network ultimately supported airing the show.

And what did viewers see? All-in-all, the program offered up a fairly mixed message. The "lesbian" episode managed to effectively combat homophobia, though it still reinforced heterosexism.

In the first place, it's unclear whether a kiss between a heterosexual woman playing a lesbian character (Mariel Hemingway) and a heterosexual woman playing a heterosexual woman (Roseanne Arnold) is even a "lesbian kiss." Arguably, such imagery merely perpetuates the stereotypical and heterosexist portrayal of predacious (or just plain stupid) homosexuals. In any event, the five-second kiss was shot from an angle that showed very little kissing. For all the controversy, the moment came and went rather quickly. Despite its flaws, however, the scene brought an undoubted message of hope and affirmation to young and closeted viewers across the country who rarely (if ever) see portrayals of same-sex affection.

Though the kissing scene was rife with heterosexism, the program as a whole confronted homophobia. Roseanne's character took a good (and funny) look at her own insecurities, particularly her anxiety about being labeled "gay."

In one scene, Roseanne admits she was wrong; Roseanne hopes that her lesbian friend Sandra won't think of her as "not cool" because she is uncomfortable with the "gay" label. Sandra replies: "I'm not comfortable with everything about you either. Every time I think about you and Dan in bed ... Yuck!"

A tag scene at the end of the episode showed Roseanne and husband Dan in bed. Roseanne tells Dan that she had been kissed by someone else; Dan is upset until he learns that the "other man" was really a woman. His anger turns to arousal, and the scene offered a self-critical commentary on the mainstream media's willingness to exploit lesbian sexuality for the benefit of heterosexual men.

To let ABC know what you thought of the episode, contact Edward Harbert, President, ABC Entertainment, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, L.A., CA 90067, tel. 310-557-7777, fax 310-557-7160; Roseanne Arnold, Executive Producer, *Roseanne*, Carsey-Werner Co., 4024 Radford Avenue, Bldg. 3, Studio City CA 91604.

And a Bigot Is Still a Bigot...

The controversy surrounding the "lesbian" Roseanne episode has been deemed a "publicity stunt" by some critics. However, *TV Guide's* critic, Harry Stein, argues that Roseanne Arnold's campaign to

get the show aired was nothing more than "extortion, and could, under slightly different circumstances, get the perpetrator tossed in prison." In his March 5 essay titled "Do We Really Need to See Roseanne's Latest Kiss?" Stein suggests that lesbian love is offensive (or at least confusing) to the "tolerant traditionalists" who make up the bulk of the TV viewing audience. Stein quotes an Ohio man who asks: "Don't they [the TV producers] have any concern about the influence of what they pump into our homes?" Stein concludes by stating that, in light of this "lesbian kiss," Roseanne Arnold "now seems poised to take her [character] in directions that, as far as many of us are concerned, ought to have been left between her and her therapist."

To suggest that homosexuality is strictly a matter for clinical treatment is nothing but blatant, antiquated homophobia. In his professed concern over the impact of what is "pumped into America's homes," Stein doesn't bother himself with the fact that television mostly pumps heterosexism and homophobia into our living rooms. Decades of such televised bigotry have taken a terrible toll that Stein prefers to ignore.

To criticize this bigoted critic, write to *TV Guide*, Box 500, Radnor PA 19088. If you want your letter considered for publication, copy it to the attention of the "Letters Department."

What's Brewing at Miller?

The Miller Brewing Company — makers of Miller Genuine Draft and Lite Beer — is the latest corporate advertiser to come under attack from the "religious" right. The company is receiving numerous calls and letters from homophobes protesting Miller's support for the Gay Games IV & Cultural Festival in June. Miller is also one of the key sponsors of Gay Entertainment Television (GET). Compliments can be sent to John Bowlin, President, Miller Brewing Company, 3939 West Highland Blvd., Milwaukee, WI 53201-0420, tel. 800-645-5376.

Media Briefs

•Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) is seeking submissions for "The Children of Stonewall: A COLAGE Experience," a first-of-its-kind multi-media installation by daughters and sons of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered parents. For information, contact Stefan Lynch, COLAGE, 2300 Market St., Box 165, S.F., CA 98414.

•The latest issue of *The Family Next Door*, a national newsletter for lesbian and gay parents, is hot off the press. For more details, call 510-482-5778 or write to Next Door Publishing, Ltd., P.O. Box 21580, Oakland, CA 94620.

•The civil liberties watchdogs at People for the American Way have just released a 60-page report, *Hostile Climate: A State-by-State Report on Anti-Gay Activity*. For ordering info, contact PAW, 2000 M St., NW, Washington, DC 20036, tel. 202-467-4999. ▼

Friday

(Continued from page 9)

past, former Mayor David Dinkins refused to march in the parade because gays/lesbians were excluded, but not new GOP mayor, Rudolph Giuliani. Hizzoner not only says he will not condemn the organizers for their blatant homophobia but also states, "I'm certainly going to march" in the March 17 parade, adding that gays have "plenty of other forums to express their point of view, such as the Gay Pride Parade."

However, in Florida, the state Supreme Court last week killed an anti-gay rights amendment headed for the November ballot, saying the measure would encroach on government authority, mislead voters and limit basic rights.

Oops, former San Jose Mayor Janet Gray Hayes, a supporter of gay and lesbian rights while in office (from 1975 to 1983) is suing publishers (Prentice Hall Trade and Simon & Schuster) of a new book on American history, *Chronicle of America*, because the tome erroneously lists her as "an avowed homosexual" (no lesbian she, says the woman married to the same man for more than 40 years).

Copycat Department: Now that California has officially moved its presidential primary from June to an earlier March date, New York is planning on moving theirs to an even earlier date in March so as to have a greater impact on the outcome of the primary fight than that of the larger California delegation. ▼

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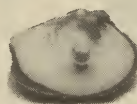
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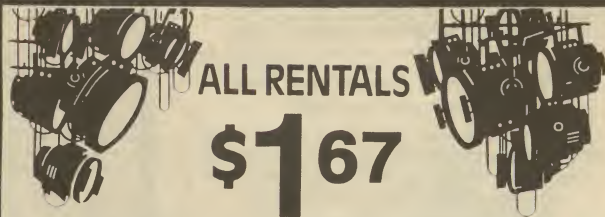


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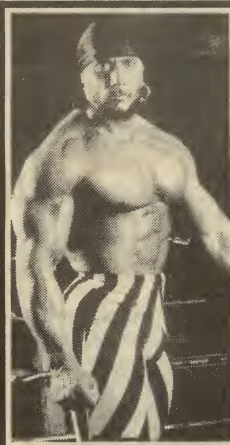
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California News

AmFAR Raises \$850K at Liz's Country Birthday Bash

by Karen Ocamb

Saturday, February 26, looked like a hoe-down at the Beverly Hills branch of the OK Corral — OK, it was actually the Beverly Hilton Hotel — with some of America's richest people all gussied up as cowpokes. For regular benefit-goers who are tired of their tuxes, AmFAR's "Two-Stepping For The Cure" country-western theme was a welcome opportunity to strut around in ranch gear during Clint Black's finger-popping performance, and to whoop it up like Gabby Hayes when Liz Taylor accepted birthday congratulations.

Unfortunately, a gabby haze is what almost overwhelmed the entire evening, which was produced to raise funds for AIDS research. The dinner chatter almost overwhelmed Time Warner Inc.'s Dick Munro, for instance, when he accepted an award for outstanding corporate leadership in the HIV/AIDS battle. He told those who could hear him that Time Warner never considered AIDS "their" problem.... one that the rest of us could simply ignore" and is still committed to "fighting bigotry and indifference ... with the facts."

Dr. Joel Weisman, the gay doctor who was a discoverer of the then-unnamed and undescribed AIDS — and who was an AmFAR founding board member and board chair from September 1988 to February 1992 — also accepted an American Foundation for AIDS Research Award of Distinction that night.

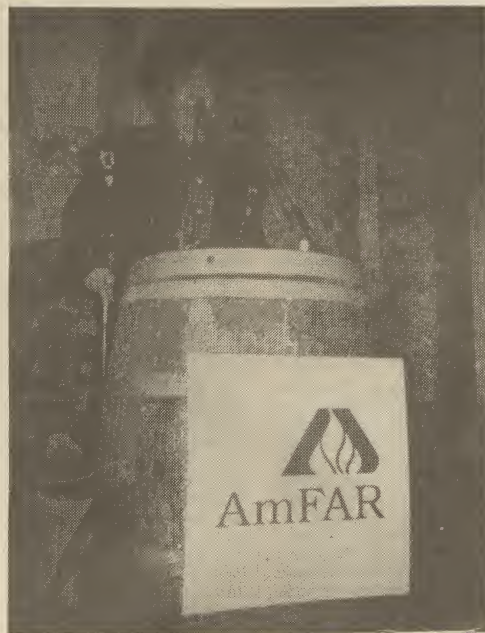
He, too, was difficult to hear over the dinner din, although phrases like "no warehousing" for people with AIDS were audible and garnered some applause.

"There will be not a lot of photo opportunities — just hard work in medical labs ... until a cure is found," Weisman said. Until then we must depend on organizations such as AmFAR for help, he said, while "ensuring PWAs the highest quality of healthcare" and pressing the government not to compromise healthcare in the name of lowering the deficit. According to a recently released survey by Pacific Oaks Medical Group to which Weisman belongs, 65 percent of people with HIV/AIDS rated President Clinton "fair to poor" in his response to AIDS.

After dinner the dancing started, with "two-stepping" dance lessons — girls on one side, boys on the other; *coupled* — to afford everyone an opportunity to enjoy the country fun. Several men looked uncomfortable at first: some held their dance partners so tentatively a few on-lookers wondered aloud how long it had been since the dancers had danced with women. Finally the strain was too much and some gay men started dancing together. Soon several gay twosomes could be seen dancing together — and so could at least one lesbian threesome.

A message from Bill

Around 9 p.m. the country revellers were asked to take their seats again for a special



62-year-old Elizabeth Taylor accepted birthday congratulations and a check mockup for \$850,000 at AmFAR's Saturday night country western gala. (Photo: Karen Ocamb)

congratulatory video prepared by President Clinton, with a message reminding them of why they were there.

"Tonight if you look around the room in which you're gathered, you see the faces of those who understand, the faces of those who know too well the agony, grief, and the desperation that accompanies AIDS. But grief did not bring you together tonight and you know that compassion alone will not provide answers," the President said. Rather it is determination to find a cure with AmFAR "crucial to the success of this work" in funding those who will "put an end to this terrible epidemic."

But, said Clinton, "we must [also] cure the ignorance and denial that leads far too many people, especially young people, to put themselves at risk for HIV and AIDS. We must challenge and overcome the misguided fears that hinder our ability to prevent HIV infection. We must stamp out the prejudice that still confronts people with HIV in daily lives and we must cure a health care system that isn't there for many of those who need it most."

His administration, the President said, "shares the determination reflected in the faces of all of you gathered tonight" by having raised the AIDS research budget, supporting the creation of a strengthened Office of AIDS Research at NIH, and by appointing a national AIDS Coordinator. "We must continue, all of us, to do what we can," including through private sector organizations such as AmFAR," he intoned.

In closing, Clinton congratulated Elizabeth Taylor, AmFAR Founding co-chair Dr. Malthilde Krim, and the night's honorees — "including two people who are very special to me: my good friends David Mixner and Elizabeth Glaser [co-founder of Pedi-

atric AIDS]. I count myself among the thousands who have been inspired by them. We'll fight on together for the cure."

After the video, Krim introduced Mixner as a man who, among other achievements, has "served as the Administration's conscience with regard to AIDS." Mixner received AmFAR's Sheldon W. Andelson Public Policy Achievement Award.

Remembering Andelson

For many of the gays in the audience who remember prominent businessman Sheldon Andelson's long fight for gay visibility before he died of AIDS, what had been quietly missing from the evening's festivities was suddenly illuminated — namely, there was nothing "gay" about it, even though the majority of those contracting and dying of AIDS are still gay men.

Mixner took the stage, thanked Andelson's family, teach children the presence here tonight," then said: "I'm David Mixner and I am a gay man and I've lost 200 friends to AIDS, including the man I loved most in my life."

For some the moment was like the shattering of a glass — or a social taboo. Others stopped talking and started to listen.

"I've learned something through this journey as a gay man in the battle against AIDS," Mixner continued. "I've learned that I've buried too many of my friends who were ashamed of being gay when they died. I've watched too many families of my friends grieve in embarrassment because their son was gay. It is not acceptable — it is not acceptable to bury any more of our people without freedom."

"We must have both a cure and freedom."

It is not acceptable, said Mixner, to live in a "world of tyranny and slavery."

Gays and lesbians have

(Continued on next page)

California News

Victory Fund Brings Political Expertise to Southern California

by Karen Ocamb

With the explosion of lesbian and gay visibility during the 1992 elections, and the mounting national homophobic attacks orchestrated by the religious far right, many politicians in the lesbian and gay community have concluded that it is no longer sufficient to fund and vote for non-gay, pro-gay politicians. It is time, they say, to elect "our own."

To that end, the national Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, a Washington-based organization that raises "early money" for selected gay and lesbian candidates around the country, has launched the Victory Fund Training Institute. The training is designed to teach actual or prospective lesbian and gay candidates, campaign managers, fundraisers and other political support staff the nuts and bolts of running a successful campaign.

On February 25-27, the Institute brought its training seminars to Los Angeles. Facilitated by the Victory Fund's experienced political consultants David Fleischer and Liz Kaufman, with added help from local consultant Sue Burnside (currently managing Steve Martin's West Hollywood city council campaign), the training brought together some of California's best and brightest leaders.

Thirty-two people were selected to attend the seminar at the Gay & Lesbian Center, from a pool of 260 people Fleischer says he spoke to on the telephone and 92 who applied. Forty-seven percent of the attendees were women, 28 percent were people of color. "This is the biggest training we've done," Fleischer says. "There are so many great people who applied, we had a problem selecting. There is enough talent in Southern California



The Victory Fund's David Fleischer (left) poses with (left to right) State Assembly candidates Sheila James Kuehl and John Duran and San Francisco's Catherine Dodd at the Training Institute. (Photo: Karen Ocamb)

alone to warrant a second weekend."

State Assembly candidates Sheila James Kuehl (41st District) and John Duran (42nd District) were boning up on winning tactics. Others, such as San Francisco's Catherine Dodd and Elizabeth Birch (National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Board Co-Chair), Marin County's Wenden Treanor, Los Angeles' Gwen Baba (the Center's new Board Co-Chair) and Peter Mackler (California Senate Pro Tem Bill Lockyer's new gay liaison) and Sacramento's Laurie McBride (LIFE Lobby executive director) were learning the ropes for a possible later run for office.

Others, such as San Francisco's Ron Wong (currently a fundraiser for Tom Ammianno's supervisor campaign) and Orange County Republican activist Pat Callahan, were more interested in campaign structure and management.

"We've spent a lot of time talking about reaching out and expanding our base of support. But the most impor-

tant thing I've learned so far," Dodd said at a mid-weekend lunch break, "is how to do a plan, how to get there. With a concrete plan of action, more of us will be successful."

Also under discussion in the room full of political activists was an op-ed article written by far right winger and former presidential candidate Pat Buchanan in the *Los Angeles Times*, supporting the so-called "quota-busting" California Civil Rights Initiative.

The measure — which would have to pass the scrutiny of the (openly gay) acting Secretary of State who is campaigning for the job, Tony Miller — would repeal all of California's affirmative action programs.

"It's ironic," says Assembly candidate Duran, "but Pat Buchanan may have done us a favor. By pushing for the repeal of their civil rights, he's linked us to the people of color communities."

For more information on the Victory Fund or its Training Institute, call (202) 842-8679. ▼

(Continued from previous page)

performed "remarkable feats as a community of people" during the 12 years of the AIDS crisis, he reminded the crowd. "We have travelled great journeys, and done things that many of us never thought we had the capacity to do. We have the ability to have a vision of a world where people are cured of AIDS and the talents and uniqueness and skills are held in high esteem, and not oppressed."

Paraphrasing observations made by Ernest Hemingway, watching fighters carrying their dead during another impossible war, Mixner said: "These are our dead. And we give them to the earth. And as long as the earth lasts so will the memory of our dead. And through their nobility and through that memory and through the gift of their courage — never again will we return to tyranny."

Pediatric AIDS co-founders Elizabeth Glaser, Susan DeLaurentis, and Susie Zeegan received the AmFAR's Courage Award following Mixner's passionate remarks, with Glaser paying special tribute to Dr. Michael Gottlieb for connecting the critical new organization with

AmFAR. They were followed by a greatly appreciated half-hour concert by country star Clint Black.

Quiet at last

The most anticipated event of the evening was AmFAR's tribute to AmFAR National Founding Chair Elizabeth Taylor on the occasion of her 62nd birthday. The star had considerable difficulty making it to the stage, escorted by Disney major domo Michael Eisner and Clint Black. She has put off having hip replacement surgery to help her friend Michael Jackson and to appear at APLA's Commitment to Life Awards and the AmFAR event.

But once Taylor gripped the side of the podium for stability, her strength emerged, and it looked as if the star was about to deliver a soulful summing up of what AmFAR is all about. The International Ballroom fell quiet as she talked about fighting the "deep prejudice" surrounding AIDS, and about those who've been "disregarded," and those "we've grieved." We can't, the star said, "restore society impoverished by their loss," but we can gain strength from "the million who marched to Washington

to declare 'Enough is Enough!'"

"We've learned great lessons of dignity only those battling for their lives could teach," Taylor said. And then she implored those in the audience from the entertainment industry to make films like *Longtime Companion*, ... *And the Band Played On*, and *Philadelphia* — films to force "the public to understand what AIDS means. ... AIDS has millions of stories."

Taylor also emphasized the need for education and — for "those at risk who will just not listen" — clean needles. "We will do whatever it takes," she vowed.

Taylor also remembered Sheldon Andelson and others who've died from AIDS, and offered up a prayer that "maybe this year we will have a cure." Eisner then presented her with a mock-up of a check for \$850,000. She accepted it, and then, as she was helped off the stage she whispered in the microphone: "I wish it was a million."

By the end of the evening, as dancers took to the floor and early risers took to the door, gays and straights mixed comfortably, warmed by the good time and knowledge of a cause well served. ▼

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At least one San Franciscan with AIDS has received mail from an unidentified source in the last week, containing veiled references to his "condition," as well as strident religious tracts.

The Bay Area Reporter and others are interested to learn if other PWAs are receiving similar mail.

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Asian Lesbians and Gays Cheered a



The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) put in a festive first appearance in Chinatown's New Year's parade. (Photo: Doug Seto)

by Doug Seto

It seems particularly fitting to remember, as the world enters the Chinese Year of the Dog, the expression "every dog has his day." The gay and lesbian Asian community is no exception: its day finally came on a full moon, February 27, 1994, the day Asians from around the globe united to celebrate the new year.

This 4,692th consecutive celebration set several records: for instance, the string with the largest number of firecrackers—200,000—was lit by Mayor Jordan, and the first gay and lesbian Asian groups marched in the parade through Chinatown. Even the dragon one of those groups carried must have set some kind of record: most dragons are made in China and weigh several hundred pounds, but the Gay Asian

Pacific Association dragon weighed fifteen pounds and was made here in San Francisco, of red and lavender balloons and foam.

There was some concern at first by the gay Asian community, which was represented by the Older Asian Sisters in Solidarity (OASIS), the Asian Pacific Sisters (APS), and Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA), about how they would be accepted by their people. After all, they had read about how the Irish community refused their lesbian and gay brothers and sisters the opportunity to march in New York's Saint Patrick Day parade.

Would history repeat itself in San Francisco?

Fortunately, the Asian gays started off with no administrative hassles: "We didn't experience any problems at all. I'm really happy

with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce for allowing us to participate," said Dennis Lee of GAPA.

"I think it is significant for Chinatown and its community to let this happen, but I think a few people will be turned off by us," said Jeanette Lazam, San Francisco Human Rights Commissioner, shortly before the parade started.

The B.A.R. asked several other participants what they thought about having the Asian gay/lesbian community in the parade:

"I think it's great to see that there's a gay and lesbian organization in the parade this year, because I believe that this festival should not have any discrimination, because it's to celebrate all people," said Amy Hsu, the 1994 Miss Chinatown, USA.

"San Francisco is so diversified, and this is a free country, and if the [Asian] gays and lesbians want to march in the parade it's fine with me," said Officer Wong of the San Francisco Police Department Lion Dance Team.

"My personal opinion is it doesn't bother me at all, as long as they keep in good conduct and don't bother any other people," said Master Tat-Mau Wong of the Tat Wong Kung Fu Academy.

"I can't believe they weren't in last year," said Cindy Chin, program coordinator of the Asian-American Donor Program.

"It's time that the Chinese community recognize their gay brothers and sisters," said Mabel Teng, who is running for Board of Supervisors and is currently serving on a community college board.

Boos amidst the cartoons

The crowds pushed in and out against the metal fence like a tide, to get a good look at all the floats, street cars, and marching bands moving down Kearny Street. They cheered characters from Chinese folklore, television newscasters, clowns on stilts, and many others. Even Mickey Mouse, Pluto, Roger Rabbit, and Goofy showed up this year. The parade continued as scheduled, but the party atmosphere would soon change.

Several members in the crowd began hissing and booing when someone arrived. It wasn't the lesbian and gay contingent that was getting the raspberry, however, but the city politicians in their convertible Mustangs.

"Hey, didn't you have enough to drink before the parade?" an onlooker shouted at a member of the San Fran-

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d at S.F.'s Chinese New Year Parade



The Asian/Pacific Lesbians & Bisexual Women's contingent made for an arresting presence as well in the February 27 parade. (Photo: Doug Seto)

cisco Board of Supervisors. Someone even threw garbage at one politico's vehicle.

Meanwhile, the Asian gays and lesbians were now several floats behind. Would they get similar disrespect from the rowdy members in the crowd?

The world would soon find out as the Asian gays and lesbians marched onto Kearney with a large banner that read: "We Are Your Family."

Several marchers blew loud whistles while the others chanted, "We're gay, we're Asian, we're all across the nation."

Mr. and Ms. GAPA were inside a moving pagoda, topped with Chinese lanterns. Men with ferns around their heads — symbolizing Pacific

Islander pride — carried a large purple Godzilla with red flashing eyes, on a palanquin. The women from APS and OASIS dressed as dogs and phoenixes, and had characters printed across their uniforms reading, "love of woman."

Behind them, another group of men and women proudly exhibited their beautiful red and lavender dragon, moving it in the traditional water snake form.

They marched on, their hearts beating, their faces full of excitement and pride. They bravely advanced and received loud cheering from the crowd. Not phony hand claps, but shouts of encouragement and acceptance. Everybody could see that the members from GAPA, APS,

and OASIS were proud of their sexuality, race, and their participation in a great San Francisco tradition. The people of San Francisco witnessed a genuine mutual bonding within the Asian community.

"We're out here in numbers, showing the community that we're proud and gay," said Mr. GAPA, as he waved to the roaring crowd.

"I think the entry was long overdue and I'm surprised that it took them so long to attend the Chinese New Year parade," said an elderly Chinese woman who sat on the sidewalk with her sleepy malamute.

Even Buddha must have been happy with this year's parade addition. After all — it didn't rain. ▼

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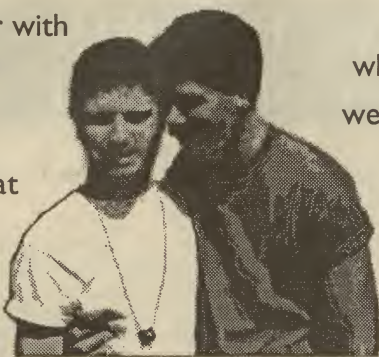
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National News

Landmark Lesbian Health Summit Held in Washington

by Bob Roeher

The National Lesbian Health Policy Roundtable seemed to sneak into town on cat's paws, quietly, with no fanfare and with only the briefest press advisory, near its conclusion, of a reception in the Capitol Building.

Seventy of the nation's most prominent lesbian health care advocates and practitioners came to Washington for a long weekend of meetings at the end of February. On Tuesday, March 1, they split up for a series of education and lobbying meetings with their representatives in Congress and within various parts of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Impetus for the meeting had come from the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), which invited co-sponsorship with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), and the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation (NLGHF).

Joyce Hunter, president of NLGHF, said "the seeds of this meeting were set at [our] 1991 conference in New Orleans, when the lesbians said that we have to address our issues in a more visible way than has been done in the past." She is excited by this beginning.

Marci Wasserman, HRCF's principal organizer, saw the

meeting as an opportunity to share "what we learned at the Department of Health and Human Services and what is going on on Capitol Hill, how we can affect that, and also to help define what lesbian health is."

Inclusiveness was a primary factor in both the organizing and low public profile of the meeting. "This time it was an invitation-only meeting, specifically because we wanted to hold down the number of whites attending," said Marj Plumb, health policy director for NGLTF. "We funded about half of the participants to come, with scholarships."

Most participants at the reception mentioned that there had been "some difficulties, some bumps in the road along the way" during the three days of meetings, as HRCF's Beth Cohen put it. They saw that as a natural product of the diversity present and didn't feel it impeded the discussions.

Many noted that the divisions of interests tended to fall along class or economic lines. While the barriers to quality lesbian health care are greater than simply those of money, those barriers can often be reduced with the access that money provides.

"We can't forget about class. Class makes a big difference in whether or not you have access," said Carmen Vazquez, with the San Francisco Department of Health's Gay and Lesbian Health Services.

What's a "lesbian?"

Defining "lesbian health care" was another core issue for the participants. "It is a big community," said Plumb. "They do drugs, they are HIV-positive, they have cancer, they have children, they have men in their lives, they don't have men in their lives. ... It is complicated."

"We want to make sure that definition is as broad and as inclusive as possible," said Wasserman. She sees this group as a way to help educate and define the issues through both legislation and the agencies which implement policy.

"Part of the process is burning into the consciousness of providers, and people who make policy, and our own larger community [the concept of this diversity]," said Vazquez. "It is to make visible what has long been invisible."

Vazquez's lobbying message is clear. "They need to



Marj Plumb, health policy director for NGLTF.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

think about lesbian health care as specific and different problems within health care. In many ways they are different, in many ways they are the same."

Amber Hollibaugh, with the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York City, cited a common example: "When you go in for drug rehabilitation they work on your sexual orientation, because they think that is why you have a drinking or drug problem," she complained. "You're not getting what you need."

"You can provide access to health care, but if it isn't quality care, appropriate care, people often drop out of the system. ... It has to be more than services on paper," said Hunter.

"Research is key" to Paula Ettlebrick, from the New York office of NCLR. "Until you can go to Congress or the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) with hard core statistics and data on the state of lesbian health, you are not going to get the funding for education, or community services, or additional medical research."

She believes that the women's health initiative, a recently announced, multi-year \$600 million study, is going to be very important in gathering that data. Lesbian health advocates mounted a sustained effort to be explicitly included in that project. HHS has agreed to include specific questions on female to female sexual practices.

How to sum up the meeting? "We now have a touchstone," said Hollibaugh. "We never had that before, we were spread out around the country, all overworked. Now Marj [Plumb] and Marci [Wasserman] are here. Their job is to try to figure out the national scene ... and coordinate us." ▼

Violence

(Continued from page 1)

60 percent of the victims who reported incidents were between the ages of 22-45, and 31 percent of the assailants were under 21.

Some form of weaponry was used in 62 percent of the reported incidents, including fists and feet as well as rocks, hammers, and other objects. Clubs and bats were used in 18 incidents, knives in 17, and guns in nine.

The annual report also noted that 23 incidents concerned verbal abuse or physical violence by police and

other law enforcement officers.

More than 1,813 anti-gay episodes were reported to six lesbian and gay victim services agencies around the country in 1993, according to the annual report of the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force Policy Institute.

The New York City metropolitan area reported the highest number of anti-gay incidents (587), followed by San Francisco, Minneapolis/St. Paul (229), Chicago (204), and Boston (187).

The majority of the incidents reported involved harassment, followed by physical violence. ▼

Disgraced Gay Sailor Charges Banks Colluded with Military

by Bob Roehr

Norbert MacLean's story so far has been confined to the financial pages of the *Washington Post* but he may be about to have his 15 minutes of fame as the next poster boy in the fight over gays in the military.

MacLean, 23, was a cryptographer in the Navy, responsible for encoding and decoding messages, serving primarily in Washington. His job performance ratings were typically laudable.

He was arrested in April 1992 and thrown in the brig for 118 days at the Quantico Marine base south of Washington, on charges of unexplained absences, forgery, and bouncing checks.

He maintains that the bank in question made a \$600 transfer out of his account, which he says he did not authorize, resulting in bounced checks that were not his fault. He said he pleaded guilty to 12 counts of writing bad checks when he was first confronted with the charges, because he was told that was the only way to avoid serving more time in jail.

MacLean believes the entire investigation was instigated and continued because he is gay, and the military was simply looking for a way to force him out. He is preparing administrative and legal challenges to that action.

What sets this case apart from the all-too-familiar parallel cases of persecution of lesbians and gays in the military is that MacLean didn't stop there. He is suing the financial institutions that cooperated

first obtaining MacLean's consent and without the NIS obtaining a subpoena. Such cooperation is a violation of federal financial privacy laws.

MacLean filed a \$2 million suit in early February against Riggs National Bank, American Security Bank, and subsidiaries of Citibank and Sears, Roebuck and Co. American Security has since settled for an undisclosed amount.

In papers filed March 3, Riggs acknowledged that one of its employees had informed the Navy and other federal agencies of "suspected check fraud" by MacLean. However, it maintained this did not violate his financial privacy. A Riggs spokesman declined to comment beyond what was entered into the court record.

MacLean is keeping a low profile somewhere in Florida. His lawyer, Paul Moriarty, has also kept mum. In a conversation on February 17, Moriarty cited the sensitivity of the appeal, which is still within the system of military justice, and a possible civil rights action against the Navy.

Moriarty has a background in military jurisprudence. He seemed largely unfamiliar with the federal court challenges of Joe Steffan and Keith Meinhold to the military's anti-gay policies. Those cases are now at the appeals court level. ▼

The banks violated federal financial privacy laws by cooperating with the NIS, without first obtaining MacLean's consent and without the NIS obtaining a subpoena.

ed with the Naval Investigative Service (NIS) in its investigation of his finances.

During proceedings before the military court it became clear that the institutions cooperated with NIS, without

This Is What the Military Calls a 'Major Change' in Policy

by Charles Doe

WASHINGTON (UPI) — U.S. President Bill Clinton's policy allowing lesbians and gay men to serve in the armed forces — provided they keep their sexual orientation secret — finally has been incorporated in Defense Department directives, the Pentagon said Tuesday, March 1. Spokeswoman Kathleen deLaski said the Pentagon's General Counsel Jamie Gorelick signed the final version of the directive Monday night.

Approval of the directive, which will now become the basis of separate regulations issued by the individual services, follows weeks of cutting and pasting to accommodate concerns from the services and congressional critics of the new policy.

DeLaski denied the changes substantively affected the new policy, which has been popularly described as "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue."

The policy means service members cannot be asked whether they are homosexual but also are forbidden from declaring openly that they are gay or to engage in homosexual conduct while serving.

Unit commanders are for-

bidden from ordering investigations just to determine a service member's sexual orientation, a once-common practice called "witch hunting."

The original draft of the new Pentagon policy directive was released last December by then-Defense Secretary Les Aspin.

"This was a very sensitive and emotionally charged issue and people had a lot of com-

ments," deLaski said, "so we tried to incorporate them."

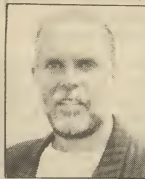
DeLaski noted that the "don't ask" portion of the new policy has been in effect for more than a year. In February 1993, military recruiters were forbidden to ask prospective recruits whether they were gay, a question that had formerly been required.

Most of the revisions of the new policy draft, she said, were in those provisions in the "don't pursue" category.

These define commanders' authority to investigate allegations of homosexual conduct, which remains forbidden, and spell out the procedures to be followed to remove overt homosexuals from the services.

"It is complicated," deLaski acknowledged. "It's a major change in policy and we want it to be clear to everyone." ▼

Since February of 1993, military recruiters have been forbidden to ask prospective recruits if they were gay.



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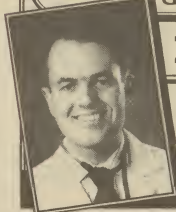
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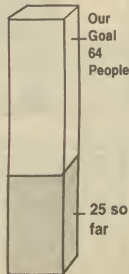
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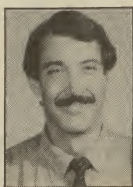
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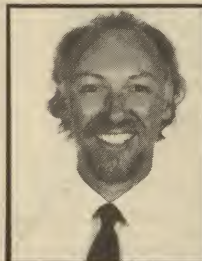


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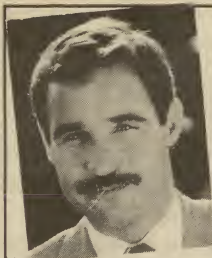
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HIV News

Large Clinical Trial Still in Limbo

Hopes for AIDS Vaccine Imperiled by New Test Data

by Dan Medynski

Several AIDS researchers reported, at a recent scientific meeting, that protective antibodies elicited by several promising AIDS vaccines were unable to block infection by many strains of HIV-1 in an important laboratory test known as a viral neutralization assay.

The sobering scientific reports have stirred debate in the AIDS research community, and have prompted representatives from the National Institute of Health (NIH) to explore the implications of the test results, vis-a-vis a \$10 million dollar Phase 3 AIDS vaccine clinical trial scheduled to start in late 1994.

The trial is expected to involve at least 5,000 HIV-negative participants nationwide, categorized as at high risk for exposure to the AIDS virus. A decision on whether to proceed with the clinical trial in 1994, or postpone it, is expected within the next few months.

The gloomy laboratory test results were reported at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease's (NIAID) 6th Annual Conference on Advances in AIDS Vaccine Development in November 1993. The conference proceedings were summarized in *Science* magazine [Science 262:980-981 (1993)].

Real World Viruses vs. Laboratory Isolates

The viral neutralization assay involves mixing blood from individuals immunized with a vaccine with different viral isolates and determining whether each of the individuals has developed protective neutralizing antibodies which prevent infection of white blood cells; antibodies that do not neutralize a viral challenge are worthless. The crux of the problem with the HIV study is whether researchers should test the laboratory isolates of HIV used to develop a vaccine, or real world "field isolates" freshly harvested from HIV-infected individuals.

Thomas Matthews, a researcher at Duke University and a key figure in the testing of the AIDS vaccines, reported that blood samples isolated from 40 individuals inoculated

with six different vaccines were unable to protect white blood cells from infection by fresh field isolates of HIV. In contrast, laboratory-adapted strains of HIV used to develop the vaccines were neutralized by the blood samples. Researchers from biotechnology companies and government agencies echoed similar findings in independent viral neutralization assay experiments.

Why use laboratory strains of HIV to develop the vaccine? According to Patricia Fast, Director of Phase 1 and Phase 2 AIDS Preventative Vaccine Trials for NIAID's Vaccine Branch, Division of AIDS, "Fresh field isolates of HIV cannot efficiently infect T-cell lines, which are essential for propagation of HIV, used to characterize the virus's pathology, replication, and lifecycle in a laboratory setting. Two variants of HIV-1, MN and SF2, were used to develop the AIDS vaccines. These HIV strains were initially isolated from infected individuals, successfully propagated under laboratory conditions, and later found to be representative of the predominant strains of HIV found in

There are
now 27
AIDS vaccines
in different
stages of
development
or testing.

a majority of infected individuals in North America and Europe."

Virus mutation rate

When asked about the difficulty in designing a successful vaccine to HIV in humans, Fast commented, "The vexing truth is that the continuous evolution and mutation of HIV, whether in humans or in the laboratory, has impeded design of a successful vaccine. The typical mutation rate of HIV is 1 percent per year, exceptionally high compared to the human genome or other viruses. All known HIV variants can be grouped into five subtypes, but there are many related but unique strains in each subtype.

"The coat protein in HIV, gp120, varies by an average of 32 percent among the five subclasses, HIV-1 strain MN, from which some of the gp120 vaccines were developed, falls within one particular subtype to which nearly all virus isolates identified in the U.S. belong. In order for a vaccine to be 100 percent effective, neutralizing antibodies must recognize each and every subtype — if the vaccine works by neutralization." Some vaccines work by cell-mediated immunity instead of neutralization, activating memory T-cells.

Fast implied that a vaccine that was effective in protecting only 50 percent of the ex-

Some
participants
will test
positive to
some HIV-1
proteins in
ELISA tests
soon after
vaccination —
even if they
are not
infected with
the virus.

posed individuals in a population would represent bold progress, given the odds of developing a vaccine that is 100 percent effective. Some researchers have suggested that a single inoculation with a particular viral coat protein just wouldn't be effective. Rather, a cocktail of several strain isolates which contain different neutralizing determinants on the virus coat, boosted several times, would have a higher probability of success.

In the wake of the reported failure of the vaccines to elicit antibodies that effectively neutralize fresh field isolates of HIV, Fast suggested that a new standard to measure vaccine efficacy should be developed for use in viral neutralization assays. She suggested using difficult to neutralize strains of HIV-1 SF2 or MN that have never been grown in the laboratory, rather than strains that have been selected for laboratory experiments and propagated on T-cell lines.

Neutralizing determinants

Currently, there are 27 AIDS vaccines in different stages of development or testing, of which more than 20 include, wholly or in part, the viral coat protein gp120 or its precursor, gp160. AIDS vaccines currently in clinical trials in San Francisco include gp120 vaccines developed by Genentech and Chiron/Bio-cine, and a gp160 vaccine manufactured by MicroGeneSys.

The gp120 vaccines developed by Genentech and Chiron appear to be the top two choices for Phase 3 clinical testing if NIH officials give the green light for trials to begin in late 1994. The two vaccine formulations differ in that they were developed from different strains of HIV and use different adjuvants. Adjuvants are substances that boost the potency of a vaccine in stimulating different "arms" of the immune system. Both vaccines have performed well in Phase 2 clinical trials; Phase 2 trials seek to answer questions about vaccine safety and magnitude and nature of the immune response.

gp120 attaches to T-cells by binding to CD4 proteins

(Continued on next page)

"In order for a
vaccine to be
100 percent
effective,
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subtype —
if the vaccine
works by
neutralization."
—Dr. Patricia Fast

Scientists Discuss Other Vaccine Problems in S.F.

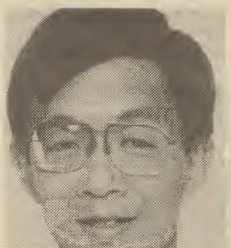
by Sidney Brinkley

While AIDS activists demand a cure for AIDS, scientists say when and if an effective preventive HIV vaccine is developed, it will not be the "magic bullet" the world is hoping for and will present United States policy makers with complex, controversial decisions. That and a new look at the origins of sexual orientation were discussed at the 146th convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science convention here last month.

"An efficacious HIV vaccine will not eradicate the AIDS epidemic," said Bernard Lo, M.D., professor of medicine and director of the University of California at San Francisco's program in Medical Ethics.

Lo stressed the point that the development of an HIV vaccine is not just a matter of research [see accompanying story, "Hopes for AIDS Vaccine Imperiled by New Test Data" by Dan Medynski] but also involves complex legal and political issues. Among his reasons why the vaccine will not be 100 percent effective, the majority are not problems of medicine.

Because HIV is rapidly spreading among African-Americans, Hispanics, and injection drug users, "such persons are often economically



UCSF Professor of Medicine Dr. Bernard Lo, director of that school's program in medical ethics.

and socially disenfranchised," he said. "They lack, most of all, access to the health services system. It will be hard to reach them for vaccination."

In addition, Lo cited the already huge deficits faced by federal, state and local governments a vaccination program would have to compete with other health programs. "Financing a vaccine program in the U.S. will be a major problem," he said.

Due to huge losses in product liability suits, drug companies will be concerned about their legal liability and their issues will have to be addressed.

"Without special legislation to reduce their liability, drug companies may be reluctant to market an HIV vaccine or set the price so high as to limit access."

But the most important reason is the genetic make-up of the AIDS virus itself. Lo said there are various strains of HIV and one vaccine will not work for all people.

"Because of the biology of HIV infection, a vaccine will not be as effective as vaccines we are familiar with, such as those for measles and polio. HIV shows considerable variation and mutates. Many scientists believe that a preventive vaccine will be only 60 percent effective. We have to lower our expectations for [a cure]."

Lo distinguished between preventive HIV vaccine and "therapeutic" HIV vaccine, which will be needed for those already infected by HIV. He said a preventive vaccine will not stop the progression to full blown AIDS for the millions of people who are already infected with HIV. In addition, since it will be less than completely effective, people who receive the vaccine will still be at risk for the disease if they carry out high risk behavior.

"We need to think about an HIV vaccine not just as a series of shots but a combination of the shots — plus sustained behaviors over a long period of time — to avoid being infected."

Lo agreed with critics that say the U.S. HIV policy lacks leadership, has been unduly influenced by special interest groups, and is subject to turf battles. As example, he referred to the flap that occurred in October 1992, involving a gp160 antigen therapeutic vaccine.

Congress appropriated \$20

million to the Department of Defense after strong lobbying by the only manufacturer of the vaccine. Lo said the National Institutes of Health (NIH) opposed the program because it conflicted with its own program of vaccine development. The NIH had decided to focus on preventive, rather than therapeutic, vaccines and had several candidate vaccines ready. The project became mired in a series of contentious public meetings and turf battles.

"AIDS advocacy groups have demonstrated that lay people can understand complicated technical issues," Lo said. "However, public trust is

likely to be undermined if decisions seem to be based on inter-agency turf battles, rather than by professionals dedicated to serving the public interest."

Lo said current decision making processes in the U.S. are "too bureaucratic and too slow to deal with the clinical urgency of the HIV epidemic."

"The challenge for the US will be to take advantage of the scientific advances regarding an HIV vaccine by formulating public health and social policies that benefit all Americans, particularly those at highest risk for this deadly epidemic." ▼

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(Continued from previous page)

anchored on the T-cell surface, enabling HIV to infect these cells. Are researchers justified in selecting just one viral protein on which to base a vaccine? Yes. There is ample precedent with the Hepatitis B vaccine, developed jointly by Chiron and Merck, where a single viral protein subunit was used successfully to immunize humans. Furthermore, in 1990, Philip Berman at Genentech, along with collaborators at the Foundation for Medical Research in San Antonio, Texas, demonstrated that a protective response to HIV could be developed in chimpanzees immunized with just the outer coat protein, gp120, of the virus.

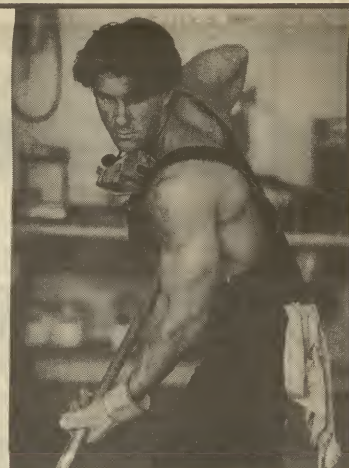
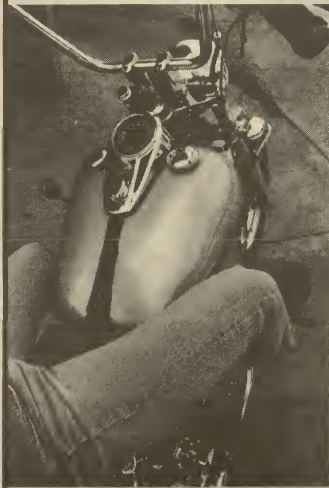
Logic would have it that antibodies that prevent gp120 from binding to CD4 would be most effective in preventing HIV infection. Surprisingly, the principle neutralizing determinant of gp120 resides in a segment of the coat protein molecule, the V3 loop, which is not directly involved in the gp120/CD4 fusion process. Antibodies directed against the V3 loop region alone are particularly effective at blocking HIV infection of different HIV strains; furthermore, the V3 loop is the target most commonly recognized by killer T-cells. Unfortunately, the V3 loop of gp120 is known to be among the most variable regions of the coat protein, differing in amino acid sequence by as much as 50 percent among different HIV-1 subtypes. Nevertheless, antibodies against a partially conserved four-amino acid sequence in the V3 loop exhibit strong neutralization properties and form a focal point for developing an effective vaccine.

Clinical trials

NIAID's AIDS Vaccine Clinical Trial Network is the largest cooperative clinical trial group in the U.S. Between 1988 and 1992, more than 1,100 men and women participated in Phase 1 and Phase 2 Clinical Trials. The Phase 3 AIDS Vaccine Efficacy Trial will be managed by HIVNET. It is expected that this clinical trial will enroll more than 5,000 HIV-negative volunteers considered to be at high risk for exposure to HIV. High risk individuals include those with multiple sex partners or a history of sexually transmitted diseases, and IV drug users. The large size of the trial is required so that a statistically valid conclusion can be made about the efficacy of the tested vaccines. The Phase 3 trial will include a placebo group.

Cynics would argue that in order for the clinical trial to gain valuable information about the efficacy of a particular vaccine, participants must practice unsafe sex. But the way the trials are set up, participants would be counseled repeatedly and frequently about safe sex practices. Nevertheless, serious social dilemmas are expected to arise. Some participants (a minority, according to Fast) will test positive to some HIV-1 proteins in ELISA tests soon after immunization — even if they are not infected with the virus. Consequently, these individuals may experience difficulties with health insurance, job discrimination, and international travel restrictions. The NIH and vaccine investigative units are planning to issue ID cards to each of the clinical trial participants and establish a "hot line" so that officials can intercede if and when unpleasant events of this sort occur. ▼

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Obituaries

Tracy Anders

March 28, 1958–Feb. 4, 1994

Born Tracy Colfield Horne, March 28, 1958, in Lynwood, California, Tracy Lee Anders died of AIDS February 4, 1994, in San Diego.

A resident of Los Angeles; Hollywood; San Francisco; Columbus, Ohio; and San Diego, Tracy held a variety of jobs and made friends wherever he went.

From early on, Tracy knew he was gay. In 1977, Tracy moved to West Hollywood, where, as was his pattern, he instantly endeared himself to many. In 1982, Tracy moved to San Francisco, where he worked for Colortile, and was a cover model for *Honcho*.

He moved in 1984 to Columbus, Ohio, where he worked with the Lazarus department store. It was during this period that he was diagnosed. He was hired by Core-Mark Industries in 1990, transferred to San Diego, and met his spouse, John Kleppinger.

Donations are encouraged to AIDS Foundation San Diego. ▼

Larry M. Feldman

July 6, 1950–Feb. 17, 1994

Larry passed away in Los Angeles on February 17 from AIDS complications, surrounded by friends, family and loved ones. His enthusiasm for life and his quest for adventure inspired everyone he came in contact with, both personally and in his work at Council Travel.

From the time he was 17, Larry sought out new adventures and far-off lands, traveling to over 85 countries throughout the world. He was fascinated with different cultures and exotic ways. His gift for languages and personal warmth made him a wonderful world ambassador.

Born in Long Island, N.Y., Larry attended college at the University of Wisconsin and UCLA, and lived most of his adult life in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Friends and family will remember his infectious sense of humor, his knack for irreverent poetry and his bestowing of appropriate nicknames.

During his illness, he showed incredible courage and determination in not letting AIDS control his life; he continued to travel and live his dreams. But Larry's most important legacy was that he exposed people to a joyous, in-the-present way of life and to the world as a whole. Larry, there will always be a place in our hearts and memories for you. You are and always will be greatly missed. ▼

Scott K. Galuteria

Feb. 11, 1960–Feb. 15, 1994

Scott took flight and joined the angels after a courageous battle with AIDS. As an exceptionally talented singer, Hawaiian dance artist and teacher, Scott touched many people with his natural grace, charm, humor and beauty. He had a special way of surrounding those around him with warmth and enchantment.

Scott was born and raised in Honolulu, where he attended Kamehameha Schools. Upon graduation from Pacific Lutheran College, he began his career as a flight attendant for Hawaiian Airlines. A resident of San Francisco since 1985, Scott was active in the Peninsula Light Opera, Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the WING-TI Performance Ensemble. During the past two years, Scott dedicated his life to spreading AIDS awareness and education as a Hawaiian man living with AIDS.

Scott will be remembered by his life partner, Frank Deluca; his parents, Juliette Galuteria and Arnold Galuteria; his brother, Brickwood Galuteria; his best friend, Kevin Fong; and a multitude of family and friends.

Scott was laid to rest in Hawaii. Donations may be made to MCC-SF Music Fund, 150 Eureka Street, SF, CA 94114.

Aloha O'e, Scott! And thanks for the enchanted time. ▼

Terry Dean Hansen

Feb. 4, 1957–March 6, 1994

Terry D. Hansen, former longtime resident of San Francisco, died Sunday evening, March 6, 1994, in Seattle, Washington, of AIDS-related complications. Terry was surrounded by his family when he passed from this world. He was preceded

in death by his father, Fred, in 1989.

Terry is survived by his mother, Eileen; brothers, Ron, Jerry and his wife Josie, Kerry and his wife Rebecca; sisters, Tawny and her husband Andy Weiss, and Kami and her husband Dean Wiley and their daughter Brandi; his grandmothers, Inez Mittleider and Dorothy Hansen; and his friends, Lisa, David, Kemper, and Robert.

A funeral service will be held Sunday, March 13, 1994, at 3 p.m. in the downstairs meeting room of Trinity Episcopal Church at Bush and Gough. Rest in peace, Terry. ▼

Mitchell Ray Jones

Aug. 6, 1948–March 2, 1994

Following a seven-month battle with liver failure and AIDS complications, Mitchell peacefully transcended this life on Wednesday morning at his home in San Francisco. During his last days and weeks, Mitchell was surrounded by the love and care of Calton and their many friends.

Born in Philadelphia, Mississippi, Mitchell graduated in 1966 from Philadelphia High School and later became a Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity fellow. Degrees earned: at Mississippi State University, 1968 AA Accounting; University of South Carolina, 1971 BA Accounting. Mitchell moved to San Francisco in 1974, where he worked as an accountant, C.P.A., cosmetology stylist/instructor/salon owner, licensed real estate sales broker, retail vice president of sales/operation, and as a front desk agent at the Fairmont Hotel of San Francisco. Membership held with Teamster Local Number 856.

Mitchell is survived by his love/mate of 18 years, Calton B. Robinson of San Francisco; four sisters and five brothers; and numerous friends on both coasts and around the world. We will all deeply miss him!

A life celebration will be held on Saturday, March 12, at 5:30 p.m., at the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco, 150 Eureka Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

Mike Kane

June 24, 1962–Feb. 1, 1994

Our community lost a great and gentle presence with Mike's death from AIDS-related lymphoma. A long-term survivor, Mike bore his own troubles and the deaths of his three partners—Ben Codi-spoti, Lyn Light, and the great love of his life,

Keith Bauer—with dignity and unquenchable good humor, and became an AIDS activist, in person, in print, and on radio.

When I met him, he was a bartender in Manhattan. Four years later, in 1989, he moved to San Francisco with Lyn, then, in 1992, to Philo, to live with Keith on a hill overlooking the vineyards of the Anderson Valley. Mike and Keith were proud of their membership in the Mendocino HOGS, whose welcome, and sympathy when Keith fell ill, Mike referred to often.

We will not forget him; not Jane, the kind of mother we all dream of; nor his father, Michael; sister, Kristine; brother, Andrew; friends, Michelle, Dennis, Joey, Cliff, Elizabeth, Clay and Joe; nor will I, Bill Zalkin, who had the privilege and

joy of being his closest friend.

Mike regretted that he and Keith never really had the time to enjoy their new Harleys together. They're together now. Good riding, sweet buddy. ▼

Bob "Bear" Martino

July 8, 1953–Feb. 18, 1994

Only in silence the word, only in dark the light, only in dying life: bright the hawk's flight on the empty sky.

On Friday, February 18, at 1:43 p.m., Bear died of AIDS at Sierra Hospital in Grass Valley, Calif. He suffered greatly for

many months, and those who love him are grateful that his suffering is at an end.

Bear was born in Baltimore and lived there until love drew him to San Francisco in 1982. He was an Ambush regular and worked in several auto wrecking yards. In 1988 he and his lover Mike bought a place overlooking the Yuba River on North San Juan Ridge near Grass Valley. They had many happy times on that property. He led a wild life, and he lived it exactly as he chose.

Bob is survived by his partner, Mike Jordan; his brother, Tom Martino; his sister-in-law, Sharon Martino; and their children. A memorial gathering is being arranged; call Greg at 648-1594 for details. ▼

Joel Saint-Cyr

Jan. 10, 1947–March 4, 1994

A rare generous and authentic soul, Joel brought endless good energy into the lives of those of us fortunate enough to have known him. Joel had a passion for living which was unsurpassed. An enthusiastic and talented designer who transcended disciplines, he loved intrinsic good design, architecture, cooking, traveling, electronics, or just quiet afternoons.

Born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and raised in a loving, extended family, he emigrated to New York in 1965, where he studied, worked, and resided until 1984. He then journeyed to San Francisco with his life companion, Gene Powers, where he continued his career in audio-visual design and later kitchen design, before semi-retiring in 1992 due to HIV progression.

Joe is survived by his partner, Gene; his sister, Monette Gaveau; his brothers, Tony and Reginald and their respective families; and by many dear friends. A memorial service in celebration of the life he loved will be held at his home on Sunday, March 20, 1994, and the following week in New York City. Godspeed until we see you again. ▼

Gerald D. Short

Jan. 1, 1951–Feb. 6, 1994

Jerry was born in Eugene, Oregon, where he attended high school and A-Arts Beauty College. He moved to San Francisco in 1982 and became the manager of a Supercuts shop in 1983. Jerry was a member of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz and an accomplished artist in traditional Native American bead work, poetry, calligraphy and watercolors.

A regal and spiritual Native American Man, Jerry touched the lives of all who came in contact with him, whether as friend or patron. Jerry transcended his HIV-related illnesses by maintaining his majestic dignity to his final breath.

In the last four years of his life, he was wonderfully cared for by his closest friend and companion, Mary Anne Voss. Jerry will be missed by his family and friends, Tony, Scott, Steve, James, Mike, Kellie, Rosie, and his longtime companion, Michael J. Ryan.

Your sweetness touched us. Your softness soothed us. Your warmth and love are always with us. We'll be looking at the moon, but we'll be seeing you. ▼

Obituaries

Gerardo Sanchez

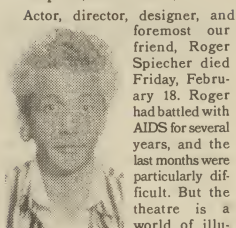
Dec. 4, 1946–April 2, 1990



"One more year has passed without your love, without your touch, without your smile, and without your musical voice. Nevertheless, I know that you're always watching over me because I feel your presence in my heart and wherever I go. Rest in peace, my love. Gracias, mi amor, por todo lo vivido. I love you and miss you." — Your sunshine. ▼

Roger Spiecher

Sept. 15, 1947–Feb. 18, 1994



Actor, director, designer, and foremost our friend, Roger Spiecher died Friday, February 18. Roger had battled with AIDS for several years, and the last months were particularly difficult. But the theatre is a world of illusions and dreams, and we clung to the hope that he would surmount this latest challenge. It was not to be.

Roger had lived in San Francisco for the last three years, his long-term prior home being San Jose, where he was a theatrical mainstay performing, directing and designing at many community theatres, among them, West Valley

Light Opera and Foothill College.

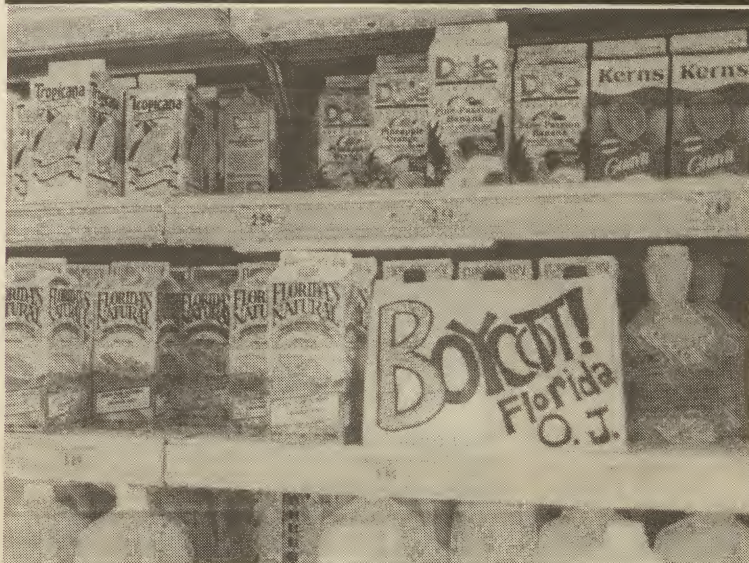
In "real life" Roger was a kitchen designer, employed by Heritage Hill in San Francisco. Roger was particularly proud of receiving his Certified Kitchen Designer degree, the arduous examination for which he studied while quite ill.

Upon moving to San Francisco, Roger affiliated with Metropolitan Community Church, which became his spiritual home.

People wishing to remember Roger may send contributions to any of the following organizations: Metropolitan Community Church AIDS Ministry, 150 Eureka Street, San Francisco; Foothill Theatre Guild, Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills; or Project Open Hand.

A huge cast of supporting players is grateful for the honor and joy of knowing Roger Spiecher. A memorial service in Roger's honor will be held at MCC on Saturday, March 12, at 2:30 p.m. ▼

National News



One shopper makes his or her feelings known in the orange juice section of a local supermarket.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Big O.J. Boycott Starts This Weekend

First Big Gay and Lesbian Americans-Sponsored Action

by Marghe Covino

The newly formed national civil rights group, Gay and Lesbian Americans, has launched a week-long boycott of Florida orange juice that will run from this Saturday, March 12, to the following Saturday, March 19, to protest another decision by the Florida Citrus Commission to have a homophobe identified with the sale of their products.

GLA organization leaders from Washington, D.C., to Tucson, Arizona have spoken out against the \$1 million advertising contract the Florida commission has awarded to radio host Rush Limbaugh and recalling the orange juice growers' hiring of Anita Bryant during the late 1970s. Michael Petrelis, outspoken Washington, D.C. activist and one of GLA's founders, said, "There are people who are still not buying Florida orange juice based on the Anita Bryant debacle. All these years they've just quietly been buying other products. Now is the time for them to get vocal about it, telling store managers and checkout clerks that they still won't buy Florida citrus products and why."

On Saturday, March 12 at

2 p.m., GLA leaders will kick off the week-long boycott by pouring gallons of Florida orange juice down the sewer in front of JR's, a popular D.C. gay bar. Other gay bars will honor the boycott by not serving Florida orange juice. Organizers are hoping bars across the nation will follow suit. Mickey Wheatly, a GLA mid-Atlantic region organizer, has a new drink recipe: "Instead of drinking screwdrivers, we're asking gays and lesbians to drink 'Screw-Rushes,' which is just a screwdriver - hold the orange juice and flush it... and Rush down the toilet."

National coordinator for the one week boycott, Jonathan Bauer of GLA Arizona said, "In choosing to spend \$1 million to advertise on Limbaugh's show, the Citrus Commission explicitly endorses Limbaugh's anti-gay political views. While the commission may find it easy to swallow Limbaugh's views, we as consumers find Florida orange juice leaves a bitter, homophobic, un-American taste in our mouths."

In his book, *See, I Told You So*, Limbaugh wrote of his opposition to lifting the ban on gays in the military

and criticized the New York City Board of Education's "Children of the Rainbow" curriculum. This "entertainer" kept selling the Christian Coalition and rabid right wing position on "multiculturalism" and whipping up homophobia during the New York City school board elections, which resulted in the elections of religious right ideologues and the ousting of a creative and caring superintendent of schools. His comment on the ordeal of Wanda and Brenda Henson in Overt, Mississippi: "I hear they bought a pig farm — must be they want to perpetuate the race."

In a February 28 *Time* magazine interview, Limbaugh has a message for the gay and lesbian community: "To those of you of the leftist, militant, homosexual crowd: take it somewhere else. Get out of our schools. Get out of our churches. Take your deadly, sickly behavior and keep it to yourselves."

GLA is demanding that the Florida commission drop Limbaugh as its spokesperson when his contract expires in August. Here's mud in your eye. ▼

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HIVCare at Saint Francis
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(limited number of spaces available)



Nevirapine is a drug that interferes with reverse transcriptase, the enzyme that introduces HIV genetic material into the DNA in your cells. It works differently than AZT and the other nucleoside inhibitors. Studies show that nevirapine is active against virus that has become resistant to AZT. Nevirapine has shown very little toxicity. This study is designed to compare nevirapine vs. placebo, alone or in combination with AZT, and the effects on T-cell counts after 3 and 6 months. There are two parts to this study, so that everyone who gets placebo in the first part will get active drugs in the second part, and free access to AZT for the duration of their participation in the study.

This study will recruit participants whose T-cell counts are between 200-500, and who have taken AZT for at least 4 months but no longer than 1 year. No prior ddI or ddC use is allowed. There are also limited spaces for participants who have never taken any anti-retroviral drugs.

For more information about this and other studies contact Mark Bowers at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.



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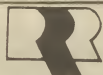
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National

Hawaii: Still not Bridal- Sweet for Gays and Lesbians

by Rene Astudillo

Hawaii would have been the first state in the country to grant registered domestic partners most of the legal rights given to married couples, thanks to state senator Rey Grauly's proposed domestic partnership legislation, but all that virtually ended last week when the Senate Judiciary Committee—of which Grauly is chair—killed the bill.

While Hawaii's lesbian and gay community stood to benefit from the proposed domestic partnership law, many were not too happy about how it was written: from the standpoint that marriage can exist only between two persons of opposite sexes. But if there was anything to make lesbians and gays happy last week, it was another decision made by the Judiciary Committee; along with the domestic partnership bill, the committee also killed a controversial legislative proposal to amend the state Constitution to restrict licensed marriages to male-female couples.

For the moment, this twin action by the ten-member committee leaves one more hurdle in the legislative battle on same-sex marriage. House Bill 2312, authored by state representative Terrence Tom, passed the house last month by a vote of 34-17. Tom's bill limits the granting of state-issued marriage licenses to couples capable of procreation. HB 2312, as written, does not have enough support to pass the Senate Judiciary Committee at this time. The senators feel that procreation does not constitute much of a "compelling state interest" to ban same-sex marriage.

It is this "compelling interest" that the state supreme court asked for when it issued a ruling in favor of three same-sex couples who sued the state for refusing to grant them marriage licenses last year.

Grauly and his committee hope for a compromise bill that would satisfy both the court requirement and the lesbian and gay community's demand for equal rights through marriage. This compromise bill may still include some form of domestic partnership for Hawaii. But supporters of same-sex marriage say they would rather fight the battle in court. That means waiting at least until next year, when the same-sex marriage case comes again before the high court. ▼

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Health & Community

Acceptance Place Residential substance abuse treatment program for gay men and men with HIV. Fundraiser and talent show March 11. 546-9946.

ACT UP Golden Gate Meetings are Tuesdays, 7pm. 584B Castro. Discuss treatment issues, possible actions. 252-9200.

ACT UP SF Meets every Thursday at 7:30pm, in the Women's Building, 3543 18th St., 3rd Fl. 621-0291.

Alliance of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Latina/o Artists 4th annual visual arts show seeks submissions. Write ALGaBiLA, PO Box 41770, SF, CA 94140.

Alternative Family Project Low-fee family counseling services for children, youth and families with lesbians, gay &/or bisexual members. Queer parents support group, too. 550-2621.

Bay Area Young Positives Support groups, retreats, fun night, referrals and peer counseling for HIV-positive people under 27. 518 Waller. 487-1616.

Chinese Medicine & HIV Lecture by Abigail Sarasky of Quan Yin Healing Arts Center. March 15, 6:30-8pm. Kaiser Permanente Med. Center, Rm. 1200C, 280 W. MacArthur Blvd., Oakland (510) 596-6848.

Drama Divas Writing and performing workshop for queer and questioning young people 18 and under. Meets Saturdays at Brava Studio, 2180 Bryant. 641-7684.

Gay/Lesbian Autobiography Writers' group forming. 334-3845.

Gay/Lesbian Historical Society Volunteers needed for exhibit about pre-Stonewall San Francisco. Ellen: 626-0980.

Gay/Lesbian United Europe Party for European citizens and friends March 12. 775-6143.

GCHP Clubhouse Drop-in and hang out space for gay/bi/questioning Asian and Pacific Islander men. Tuesdays, 7-9pm, 1841 Market at Guerrero. 575-3931.

Hearing Loss and Communication Workshop for people with HIV/AIDS. March 12, 26 & April 9. 693-5870.

HIV & TM Positive gay and bisexual men who want to learn transcendental meditation free, call (510) 548-8283.

HIV Case Management Network Information, referral, benefits counseling, financial assistance and other services provided free for Sonoma County residents with HIV/AIDS. (707) 544-1586.

HIV Positive and Losing Eyesight? National Association for Visually Handicapped can help. 221-3201.

HIV Support Workshops New groups forming, led by Neil Kaminsky at Operation Concern. Free. 677-7993.

Home Care Companions Practical skills training in caring for partners, friends, or family with AIDS. March 16, 17, 18, 21 & 22 at Davies Medical Center. 824-3269.

Lambda Youth Group Support group for les/bi/gay & questioning youth up to age 23. Confidential. Weekly meetings, Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. (510) 887-0566.

Lavender Broadcasters Convention Proposals and ideas for possible conference on queer media (perhaps May 27-30) in SF being accepted now. 1(800) L-LOUNGE.

Lesbian & Gay Business Expo Business owners are invited to exhibit at Silicon Valley Business Association expo, to be held March 12 at the Billy DeFrank L & G Community Center in San Jose. (408) 496-8804.

Lesbian Gay History Courses Early 19th & 20th century emancipation studies March 16, 23. 7-9pm. First Unitarian Church. 776-4580.

McClintock AIDS Cure Act Working Group Direct action working group to get the bill passed that will establish a Manhattan Project-style research initiative. Meets weekly. 487-9954.

Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group Ongoing groups, also meetings for friends, lovers and family. Volunteers needed also 863-1581.

Oakland EMA HIV Planning Council Seeks new members, specifically members of the HIV community, to guide Alameda County AIDS funding. (510) 268-4185.

Oral History Project Gay and Lesbian Historical Society collects life histories, and needs interviewers. Orientation March 19, 11am. 626-0980.

Out on Screen First International Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Film & Video Festival of the Young and Old seeks submissions of colors under 23, over 60, people of color and other minorities. Deadline: May 31. 824-3890.

P-FLAG Volunteer for Bridges to Equality, the Parents & Friends of Lesbian & Gays International Convention, to be held Sept. 2-5 at the Hyatt Regency. Your help is needed now. 921-6902.

The Parsonage Ministry of the Episcopal Church for gay and lesbian people. 552-2909.

Partners in Parenting Panel discussion for prospective les/bi/gay parents of color interested in foster/adoption of children of colors. March 21, 7-9pm. Free. Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St. Suite 201. 206-8772.

Shabbat Potluck Social Jewish lesbians, gay men and bisexuals are invited. March 18. in Los Gatos. (408) 399-2202.

Spectrum Lesbian, gay & bisexual support groups for parents, kids, spirituality, HIV wellness and other topics. Speakers Bureau reopening, with a one-day training on March 12. 457-1115.

Wall Street Project Practical assistance for those filing complaints of sexual orientation or HIV discrimination. (510) 869-1399.

Cure? No Thanks.

by Michael C. Botkin

The recently completed "Diabetes Control and Complications Trial" (DCCT) produced one of those "good-news/bad-news" outcomes. The good news is that they've discovered a way to stop the potentially deadly progression of diabetes in its tracks. The bad news is that the cure is such a hassle that most diabetics refuse to use it.

Diabetes, like AIDS, is a chronic, progressive disease. Complications increase with age and can lead to eye, heart, or kidney failure — and, ultimately, death. About 14 million people in the U.S. have some form of diabetes (which is basically a shortage of insulin and a resulting inability to metabolize sugar in the blood). Nine out of ten have "Type II" diabetes, which can usually be controlled by a strict diet. The rest have the deadlier "Type I" form, an auto-immune disease (another similarity to AIDS) that is somewhat controlled by twice-daily injections of insulin.

The DCCT followed nearly 1500 Type I diabetics for almost a decade. Half were on the standard therapy of strict diet plus daily insulin injections; the rest were on the experimental "tight control" regimen, which required at least four self-administered blood tests every day (including some at 3 a.m.) and occasional shots of insulin, based on the outcomes of those tests. In fact, the entire experiment and the "tight control" therapy were only made possible by the recent development of the glucose meter, a fast, easy way to measure blood sugar levels.

By virtually all measures, the "tight control" system worked, bringing blood sugar levels down to nearly normal and effectively halting the progression of the disease. But many researchers — and diabetics — doubt that it will become the standard therapy any time soon. Dr. Polonsky, a psychologist involved in the study, told the *New York Times*: "Many patients in the tight control group were just sick of the study. They couldn't wait for it to be over. The only thing that kept the study going is that these people were hounded."

Disease of denial

Aside from what this tells us about contemporary research ethics and subject motivation, it suggests that people won't bother to save their own lives if it's too much effort. "Physicians suspect that the reason is that patients are lazy, stupid, have no will power or are not frightened enough," Polonsky said. It's easy to see why they think so. People torture themselves with expensive diet programs just so they can look a little better; certainly they could make an equal effort to save their lives?

But time erodes resolve. Maybe you'll get complications, but maybe you won't; two-thirds of even Type I diabetics never develop life-threatening problems (though you might consider losing your vision or a leg a considerable inconvenience). Even if you do have problems, it certainly won't be until later, further down the road; why borrow tomorrow's trouble? Per-

haps they'll have a "real cure" by that time — meaning a simple, cheap, painless take-this-little-capsule-once-a-day silver bullet of a treatment.

"I do my best, but I can only do it for so long," one diabetic told the *Times*. "It's a constant battle. Sometimes I say to hell with it and have doughnuts. ... I get to the point of why should I even try? The blood machine is a wonderful tool, but I could throw the thing across the room when I see it."

To many the lifesaving glucose meters became a constant accusation of lack of compliance with their diets. "We could replace the number with the words: 'What did you do wrong this time?'" according to Dr. Polonsky. For many it is far easier, psychologically, to ignore the advancing illness than to confront it. "Diabetes is a disease of denial, a silent disease," one "tight control" diabetic told the *Times*. "People don't want to make a big deal out of it and don't control it the way they should."

The same phenomenon is common with AIDS. Many likely HIVers refuse to get tested or, if they test positive, fail to monitor the virus's progression. It's almost as though they'd prefer to be blind-sided, even fatally, by the disease as long as they can have just a few more years (or months or days or hours) of blissful ignorance.

The study suggests that people won't bother to save their own lives if it's too much effort.

No silver bullets

The study confirms some general trends in American medicine. Prevention is still the poor stepchild of the profession, little understood, rarely promoted, never respected. The glucose meter has been around for 15 years, but most diabetics have never heard of it and don't have access to it and won't in the foreseeable future. Perhaps most of them would also find it too much work, but many would probably like the chance to save their lives if it were offered to them. But the technique is all hassle and no profit, so why should anyone develop it?

The existence of the treatment raises some interesting ethical and insurance issues. If a cheap, effective therapy is available, but ignored, will insurers still pay for treating the complications that arise? Will they be able to dump diabetics who refuse to use "tight control" techniques or who agree to use it but fail to do so regularly enough to reap its benefits?

What does the study suggest about the prospects for successful AIDS therapies? All of the promising treatments in the pipeline are complicated, inconvenient, somewhat toxic and probably not nearly as effective as "tight control" is for diabetes. If the best therapy is difficult to use and lacks profit potential, will it be developed and widely distributed? I wouldn't bet my life on it.



Currently, I take several handfuls of pills a day, starting with megadoses of Chinese herbs first thing in the morning (they have to be taken on an empty stomach); continuing with antivirals through the day (they'll keep you awake all night if you take them in the evening); and concluding with heavy-duty antibiotics (which are best taken on a full stomach), vitamins and food supplements. This time-consuming chore, at best, succeeds in holding HIV and my leading opportunistic infections in check.

It's a hassle, but most of the time it seems a small price to pay for staying alive. I never felt that way about aerosolized pentamidine, the

noxious pneumonia prevention therapy where you suck on a hose and inhale nasty chemicals, but I still bit the bullet (or rather, the inhaler hose) and did the stuff every month until they replaced it with a simple, cheap and far more effective pill. (AP eventually turned out to be expensive, ineffective and dangerous — the AP clinics are great places to pick up treatment-resistant tuberculosis — facts concealed for years by its clever promoters at Lyphomed-Fujisawa.)

Doing AP was, to my mind, a somewhat higher price to pay for staying alive, but I was still willing to cough it up (so to speak). We all have a point beyond which we won't fight, where the

game is no longer worth the candle. The depressing point of the DCCT is that most people appear to hit that point of diminishing returns surprisingly early in the disease process and effectively throw in the towel soon after the going gets tough. They could save their own lives, but it's just too much trouble.

The simple fact is that medical science doesn't have silver bullets up its sleeve. If it did, most of us wouldn't be able to afford them. And most of those who could afford them probably wouldn't be willing to bother if it was too much work and could be put off indefinitely. For the chronically ill, the price of life is eternal vigilance; most are unwilling to pay it. ▼

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 183779

The following person is doing business as AUMAKUA, 2238 Fillmore St., San Francisco, CA: PATRICK J. SHORTELL, 984 Ashbury St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PATRICK J. SHORTELL.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 25, 1994.

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 1993. L-183779

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 958401

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of MICHELE TRACY LACAGNIN for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that MICHELE TRACY LACAGNIN has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to MICHELE TERESA LACAGNINA. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 28th day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 7th day of February, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1994. L-958401

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 957549

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ANTONIO DURAND JACOBS has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to ANTONIO DURAND KENDRICK. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 11th day of April 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 14th day of February, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1994. L-957549

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 958750

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of DANIEL LEE PICKELHEIMER for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that DANIEL LEE PICKELHEIMER has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to DANIEL LEE HACKER. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 12th day of April 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 22nd day of February, 1994.

March 10, 17, 24, 31, 1994. L-958750

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 183396

The following person is doing business as SF BARE CHEST CONTEST & CALENDAR, MR. SP. EAGLE LEATHER CONTEST, 276 Castro St., #2, San Francisco, CA 94114: TERRY A. THOMPSON, 276 Castro St., #2, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date February 11, 1994. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed TERRY A. THOMPSON.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 11, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1993. L-183396

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LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 386533

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, in the matter of the application of JENNIFER R. AVILA for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that JENNIFER R. AVILA has filed an application proposing that Applicant's name be changed to JAMES R. AVILA. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Division 2-H, Department 3, on the 30th day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 16th day of February, 1994.

February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 1994. L-386533

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 183183

The following person is doing business as MR. S.F. FURRY MAN CONTEST, 544 Church St #302, San Francisco, CA 94114: PHILIP M. TURNER, 544 Church St. #302, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date February 4, 1994. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed PHILIP M. TURNER.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 4, 1994.

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 1993. L-183183

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 958338

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of DAWN FELIZ MACKARNESS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that DAWN FELIZ MACKARNESS has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to MIRIAM FELIZ MACKARNESS. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 23rd day of March 1994 at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 4th day of February, 1994.

February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 1994. L-958338

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BAY AREA REPORTER MARCH 10, 1994 PAGE 27

Nuts and Bolts: The Empress and Emperor

by Mary Richards

After all the pomp and pageantry at the Gift Center on Saturday, February 19, two real down-to-earth guys were voted in as reigning Emperor and Empress of the Imperial Court of San Francisco: Chuck Adkins, who has the manners and bearing of a military man, and Mark Rogers, who assumes the persona of blonde bombshell Anita Martini.

Coronation 1994 was titled "Mardi Gras Madness," and thousands of well wishers were on hand to madly celebrate the ultimate in theatrical drag with Dukes, Dutchesses, the Imperial Family, and members of the court.

The new Emperor and Empress barely had time to try on their crowns when they were requested to attend a command performance. Bright and early last Sunday morning they accompanied the one and only "Her Imperial Majesty, The Absolute First Empress, Grand Mere, The Widow Norton" (or Jose, to most people) as she paid respects to her late husband at his gravesite in Colma.

But this is only the beginning. Before the year is out the two monarchs will probably appear at every gay bar in town and any event worth talking about. They will spend a majority of their free time raising funds for most of the gay groups in this city, and use their personal finances to travel to other courts around the country as representatives of San Francisco.

Contrary to what some people may assume, the talents of Emperor and Empress are not confined to dressing up and looking good. Remember what it takes to get there: a coterie of friends and followers who believe in you; weeks of planning and preparation to make your presentation, first before a Review Board of the Imperial Council, and then to a community that has seen everything and is by no means easily impressed; and most important, a belief that you can make a difference when it comes to fundraising in a city

burned out by giving.

Anita Martini describes their role in the community as "cheerleaders," and it isn't hard to picture these two personalities using their energy and enthusiasm to bring out the best in audiences wherever they go.

Lest we forget that royalty has a real life, let it be known that Chuck Adkins was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. It was the Army that brought him to San Francisco nearly nine years ago — and he says, fondly, "the Army just didn't realize what they were doing when they sent me here."

Co-owner and manager of the Urban Cellars wine shop on 21st Street, Chuck is also treasurer of the fledgling SF Bowlers Emergency Aid Relief Program (BEAR). His interest in the sport has led him to raise funds for bowlers

"There are three things that we try to do: fundraising; friendraising; and fun raising."
— Empress Anita Martini

who need assistance. Until he started bartending at the Polk Gulch Saloon, he had never heard of the Imperial Court.

"I started bartending when Mozzarella was Empress," he recalls. "People started telling me about the court and how long it's been around. I thought I could do that, have fun doing it, raise money, and make people smile."

Although you would never know it by her faux fur and Hollywood style, Anita Martini is a CPA from Dallas, Texas. San Francisco became home about three years ago, but her involvement in the Court in both cities spans almost a decade.

She was on the board of directors of several community and AIDS organizations, as well as being involved with



The reigning Emperor and Empress of the Imperial Court of San Francisco: Chuck Adkins (left) and Anita Martini (a.k.a. Mark Rogers).

(Photo: Darlene Photo/Graphics)

political and civil rights groups in Texas. With a shake of her blonde curls and a slight western drawl, she says, "I came to San Francisco for romance and adventure — and found a little bit of both."

Describing involvement in the court, Anita explains,

"There are three things that we try to do: fundraising (which is raising money); friendraising (which is raising a lot of friends to be aware of issues that we're trying to get the message out about); and fun raising (that's just about having a good time doing both of the above)."

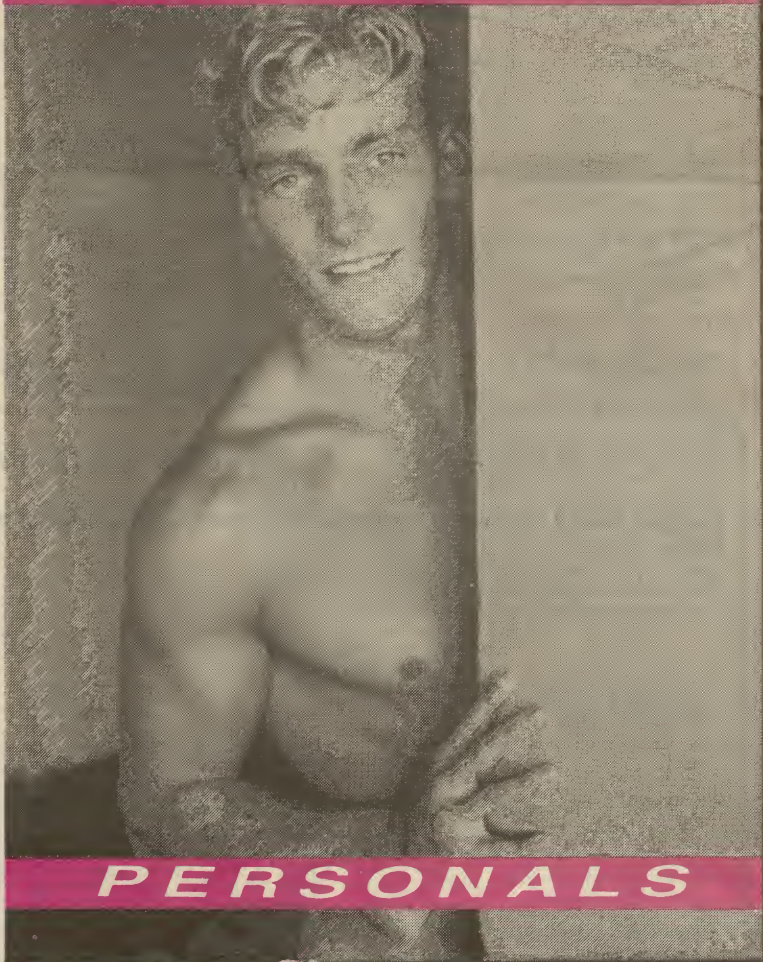
Even though next year marks the 30th anniversary of the Imperial Court, and there is still no handbook on how to be an Emperor or Empress, each reign brings with it new vitality and new ideas.

As far as Chuck is concerned, he looks forward to getting more young people in the community involved, as well as some old friends. "I was kind of new," he says, "and the people that I brought in with my campaign were new, and so it was a blessing to just have them and their friends. And friends of theirs who had never even heard of the Court are now excited and want to perform and get involved."

Chuck and Anita have decided that theirs will be the reign of The Imperial Platinum Court of Nuts and Bolts. Anita explains "We wanted something that showed a humorous side to let people know we're having fun with this, but it also needs to have a meaningful purpose."

"Well, you decide who's nuts and who's bolts, but it also means it's a building thing. You state with the smallest pieces, the nuts and bolts, to build up something you're proud of." ▼

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Sister Spirit

(Continued from page 5)

can't keep doing that over and over, we have no time to give that stuff energy — it's bad enough when it overwhelms us but we've got to move on and do our work," she said.

Wanda is currently organizing defenses in case of attack, which is most likely to occur at night. Camp Sister Spirit is still in need of an automatic generator hooked up to an alarm, set to kick on in case the power is cut. "That happened in the '60s: they cut people's power lines because they intend to come in and kill you in the dark," she said.

The Hensons have a 16-year-old car and another woman has an old pickup. "Both vehicles take about ten minutes to warm up so they'll run without bucking and stalling," Wanda told the B.A.R. "That's why we need a golf cart or some kind of other vehicle that we can get

into and get away if the need arises. It will also be handy for me to use when I videotape people lurking around on the property. I have to sneak up on them. I guess we could use the tractor to get away, but it makes so much noise we wouldn't get away."

Wanda observed that Mississippi's governor has yet to make any statement regarding the situation in Ovett. "I think it's because he doesn't want to make waves with the tourist business and the new casinos on the coast," she said.

Those who intend to boycott Mississippi's casinos until the governor takes action may choose to take a vacation at Camp Sister Spirit instead: for 50 bucks a week a visitor gets all the work they can do, a bunk, Adrienne's food, and exciting, shoot'em-up entertainment at night. And those who can't go themselves may wish to send a scholarship for someone else. Donations may be made to: Camp Sister Spirit, P.O. Box 12, Ovett, Mississippi 39464. ▼

Roseanne Arnold's
Lesbian KissRoseanne:
The
Equalizer

by Alan Frutkin

Mariel Hemingway leans toward TV's Roseanne, cradles the nape of her neck, and plants a three-second kiss on her lips. It's the now famous scene of the now famous episode of *Roseanne*, which aired March 1. As viewers, we didn't see much — the back of Hemingway's head, Roseanne's eyes staring up in shock — but it's still a groundbreaking scene.

In fact, the whole episode breaks new ground, as much for the rest of the show as for that kiss. When Nancy, played by Sandra Bernhard, and her new girlfriend, Sharon (Hemingway in a guest appearance), invite Roseanne and her sister Jackie (Laurie Metcalfe) out danc-

The 44th International Berlin Film Festival

Gay Fishing in Berlin

by Brandon Judell

The 44th International Berlin Film Festival concluded last month after unspooling 350 movies, nine of which were homo-positive features. Also screened were ten gay documentaries, and 14 gay shorts.

What's the importance of all this gay activity? According to Richard Dyer in his book, *The Matter of Images* (Routledge), "how social groups are treated in cultural representation is part and parcel of how they are treated in life; that... harassment, self-hate and discrimination... are shored up and instituted by representation." Accordingly, then, if the following flicks get mass exposure, we can close shop on our gay rights organizations.

Sandra Bernhard

One documentary that could definitely help our cause is *Sandra Bernhard: Confession of a Pretty Lady*. This ballsy coming-out pic features the star of *Roseanne*



Thick Lips, Thin Lips.

ranting that she's queer all the way but with a bisexual tinge. We get to view Bern-

hard posing for her *Playboy* spread, on stage, at home, and we even meet her mom. As a

"bonus," there's an interview with Camille Paglia. Now,

(Continued on page 36)

k.d. lang Scores in Cinematic Debut

It's the Berries

by Mara Math

In addition to the pleasures of being able to be opinionated in public, one of a poverty-stricken reviewer's few rewards is the belief that she can make a difference, however slight, in the state of the arts. But with a film like *Salmonberries*, it's a moot point. The fact of the matter is, even if this review deemed *Salmonberries* the worst flick since *Police Academy 17*, thousands of lesbian and queer readers would rush out to see it anyway.

I mean, who could resist the chance to see the cinematic debut of singer and lesbian heartthrob k.d. lang — and in a lesbian role, no less? Even if this film were a dud (and it's anything but), it would be lovely to see Kathy Dawn hotrod through the wilderness on a snowcat, wave a knife and threaten to cut off a man's penis, and exchange a deep kiss with another woman.

Salmonberries is unusual in being a quest film with heroines rather than heroes. The quests are personally heroic, without macho face-offs or physical ordeals, though k.d. does literally haul her ladylove on a sled through miles of snow.

Lang plays Kotzebue, a 19-year-old orphan who comes to the Alaskan town of the same name because it is her only clue to her origins. She is quickly smitten with Rosawitha (Rosel Zech), the town's middle-aged German librari-

an, whom she sees as the keeper of the town's history.

In their first encounter Kotz rages through the library throwing books, a transgression so shocking to Rosa that it plants the seeds of fascination. Rosa has withdrawn into Alaska's isolation ever since her husband's death in a thwarted Berlin Wall escape 24 years earlier. Kotz's dogged, awkward devotion helps thaw Rosa and bring her into the arena of human relationships again. Kotz and Rosa are each instrumental in each other's search and success, and their relationship deepens as a result.

Light Hand

Director Percy Adlon (*Sugarbaby*, *Baghdad Cafe*) shows an uncharacteristically light and subtle hand here. The elliptical nature of the conversations between Kotz and Rosa rings true, and Adlon's critique of East Germany's failed socialism is direct without being oppressive.

Adlon's homage to Alaska is as beautiful as one would expect given his paean to the Southwest in *Baghdad Cafe*. Lush is not a word that comes quickly to mind for the northern reaches of Alaska in wintertime, about a thousand miles north of the fictional Cicely of *Northern Exposure*. Yet bleakly lush it is — a broad expanse of untrampled white snow. The only resemblance to Cicely is a bibliomaniac garbage man, and he mercifully drops out of sight for most of the film. Also unlike the TV show, the

indigenous Inupiat people in *Salmonberries* do not exist primarily as a backdrop for the white folks.

Poetic and dreamlike in the manner of an Edward Hopper painting, the film occasionally shudders to a halt when the director slips up. His trademark supersaturated colors add to the film's evocative ambience, but when the camera zooms in for a long close-up of a nervous man's twitchy fingers, it's jarring and completely unnecessary. He's also taken a few filmmaker's liberties of an understandable but sloppy kind: Kotzebue, which sits just north of the Brooks Range (north of Nome), would have little daylight in the depths of winter, and experienced berry canners do not store their jeweled jars in full sun-

light, no matter how beautiful they are.

Although her role doesn't call for a great deal of acting — Kotzebue is awkward, inarticulate, impassive or sullen much of the time — k.d. is convincing and a pleasure to watch. Somewhat surprisingly, Chuck (Rifleman) Connors is pretty good, too, as an alcoholic bingo master, his role here reminiscent of the Jack Palance part in *Baghdad Cafe*. Best of all is Rosel Zech, who gives a sensitively nuanced performance as Rosawitha.

U.S. after two years showing around the world, *Salmonberries* has been worth the wait, and not only for k.d.'s performance. ▼

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Roseanne and Mariel: the critical kiss.

ing, the sitcom makes a bold attempt to shed new light on lesbian and gay life.

As the girls plan their night out, the show's original gay character, Leon (Martin Mull), overhears their conversation, and says with disdain to Rosie, "A gay bar is sort of like a size 12 dress. You just won't fit in!"

Granted, gay bars are hardly unusual settings for television's few gay characters, but then who can recall the last time gayness was described on television in terms of exclusivity?

Most of the time we are portrayed as victims — of hate, or disease. But not here. "You just won't fit in," Leon sneers, turning his nose up at the oh, so straight Roseanne. It's a great moment. Of course, Roseanne does charm the bar patrons. She's witty, she's relaxed, she even teaches them how to dance "the monkey." Impressed with herself, she turns to Sharon and says, "Can you believe that Nancy doesn't think I'm cool enough for this place?"

Then comes the kiss, which sends her into a tailspin. "Maybe you liked the

(Continued on page 37)

k.d. lang, ever so cute, in *Salmonberries*.

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OutThere

by Orland Outland

Welcome once again to another edition of OutThere, doing for my career what *Talk Soup* did for Greg Kinnear's. Hey! I got nominated for an award! And I'm really torn between two campaign slogans: should it be "It's An Honor Just To Be Nominated," or, "Heads Will Roll If I Don't Win"? You be the judge. I'm gonna go for the Nancy Kerrigan effect — all apples and sunshine on the surface, but a regular Eve Harrington underneath. And if I lose? Well, I'll just sit there at the table, keening loudly, "Why Me?"

In other award news, former San Franciscan dragster

Sophia Lamarr, who recently moved to NYC, just won the title of Queen of Manhattan, given out each year by the Rotten Apple's grooveoisie (and probably sponsored by Absolut Vodka; I mean, what isn't?). It was winning this title a few years ago that helped launch RuPaul's career, so congratulations to Sophia. It's nice to know the Cosmopolis in the Metropole only hate us quaint villagers collectively, not individually.



NBA favorite Veronica Klaus reports rumblings from the 181 men's bathroom.

Yes, that was Charles Barkley with two blond ladies on his arm (neither of which was presumably Madonna) at Veronica Klaus' Heart and Soul Revue at the 181 Club. Klaus, if you don't already know, is a talented transgendered torch singer, whose show is at the 181 every Wednesday throughout March (call 380-8031 for more info, plug plug). Veronica tells me that the club is haunted — while doing renovations, the owners found a dead body interred in the wall, and the dead man's ghost is haunting the men's bathroom, flushing toilets and knocking about (he's got no interest in the women's facility). Man! Even after death, some people just can't get their mind off dick!

And yes, we tried to get an interview with Roseanne Arnold while she was in town, to no avail. Don't



Read those lips! Mariel Hemingway did. Roseanne rises above the hypocrites — again.

blame Rosie; her people probably never even told her that her adoring gay fans were trying to reach her. And don't you love the hypocrites at ABC? First they pulled the "lesbian kiss" episode, stating that the scene "didn't reflect the way most of our viewers live" (oh, yeah, most TV reflects the way I live — why, every day in my life is like an episode of *Full House*!) Then, after being pressured to run it, they run an ad touting the "very special MUST SEE episode," which they had just told us we *mustn't* see. Hey,



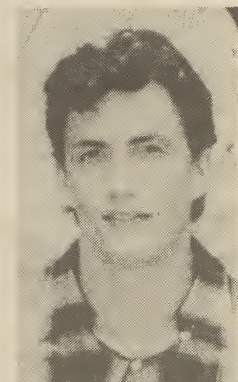
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I know most people have short memories, but that short?

Fundamentalist Fatwa: The Hollywood Reporter notes that LA radio station KFI-AM just launched the Southland's first radio talk show with an openly lesbian broadcaster. Tammy Bruce has received death threats, and says "I'm not frightened, but I take the death threats seriously and I live my life accordingly." If you're down that way, the show airs Saturdays from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. (Aren't homos always scheduled after the children have gone to bed?)

Time for another episode of Now It Can Be Told, which we run every time yet another closeted Hollywood star kicks the bucket and the truth comes out. The last we heard of River Phoenix, columnist Michael Musto was dropping post-mortem hints about the actor's "possible sexual ambiguity." Now the other shoe drops in the latest *Esquire*: While filming *Dogfight*, the film he made previous to *My Own Private Idaho*, "Phoenix had received oral sex from another male actor, saying he 'needed to do it because he was going to play a gay hustler.'" Diane,

Speaking of Hollywood: the new trend in orientation obfuscation is early marriage. Agents are advising their young gay charges to get married right away — if you're telling interviewers that you are single or "too busy for a personal life," speculation about your sexuality can build up (especially if you're spending a lot of time in leather bars while your series is on hiatus). But if you get married while you're young and nobody, speculation is defused — until, of course, you die and make your final appearance as a special guest here on Now It Can Be Told.



If the Shue fits — totally gratuitous pretty boy pic.

Filmmaker Bohdan Zachary is looking for footage of the "Reverend" Fred Phelps & Co's microwave protest (it's done in five minutes!) for a new project. If you have any video or film of this or any other anti-gay demonstration, call him at 621-6115 and you'll get a credit in his next flick if he uses it.



Irresistible OutThere goddess Laurie Anderson got Wired.

Gratuitous photo ops: I hate to spend \$5 on a magazine, which is why I never buy porno mags or *Wired*, but they put my goddess, Laurie Anderson, on the cover, so I couldn't resist. *Wired* has me convinced that the technopolis of tomorrow will be the sole province of very rich people (did you know that their average reader makes \$80,000?). Andrew Shue: No, no news, but if I'm going to go for a gratuitous photo, why not pick a pretty one?

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Film Clips

Diverting Fantasy

Fernando Trueba's *Belle Epoque*, one of the films vying for the Best Foreign Film Oscar this year, is a diverting fantasy about a Spanish state of mind that might have been. It's 1931, and the fight between the monarchists and Republicans is dividing families and friends. A young seminary named Fernando deserts the priesthood and the army and lands in the home of a bourgeois farmer. By happy coincidence, the man has four very liberated daughters, each of whom has her way with their house guest (the butch daughter — her mother raised her as a boy — does so in his uniform while he's wearing a dress). With themes similar to those in *Jamon, Jamon* and *Like Water for Chocolate* (though more genteel than either), this comedy is well-directed, well-acted and eminently likable.

At the Bridge (751-3212)

Irascible 'Tess'

Hollywood's in the middle of a bodyguard cycle. Two successful dramas (*The Bodyguard* and *In the Line of Fire*) have begotten a comedy, *Guarding Tess*, starring Shirley MacLaine as an ex-First Lady and Nicolas Cage as the Secret Service agent in charge of her detail. The irascible Tess makes the agent's life hell, but each time he tries to bail out, she phones her husband's successor, who orders him back for another installment in their love-hate relationship. Hugh Wilson's direction of *Tess* is strictly pedestrian, which leaves the whole enterprise riding on the script he co-wrote with Peter Torokvei. There are snappy patches of dialogue, but MacLaine plays one ultra-petulant note for a good half of the movie. When she's finally given some dimension, the film starts to click (a little).

At the Kabuki (931-9800) and elsewhere

Ties That Bind

Andrew Birkin's *The Cement Garden* takes place in psychological hyperspace. The film, based on a novel by Ian McEwan (whose *The Comfort of Strangers* inhabited a similarly surreal realm) centers on the elder two of four orphaned children living together in London. Jack (Andrew Robertson) is a narcissistic teen, obsessed with masturbation, his own image and a sci-fi novel titled *Voyage to Oblivion*. His androgynous sister Julie (Charlotte Gainsbourg) keeps the family together — just barely — with occasional help from Jack. Their younger brother is given to "playing house" in a dress, in imitation of Jack and Julie, whose emotional attachment grows more intense with each passing day. Taken literally, this Freudian psychodrama is just short of ludicrous (even in mythological terms), but Birkin's visuals and the acting of Robertson and Gainsbourg pull one right in.

At the Opera Plaza (771-0183) ▼

—Daniel Mangin

Derek Jarman and the Metaphysics of Color Blue Streak

by Jim Coughenour

"Blue transcends the solemn geography of human limits."

—Derek Jarman

Blue is Derek Jarman's final film, one that only in the most literal (or most imaginary) sense of the word can be called a film. For the duration of its 76 minutes, the audience faces a screen lit only by blue light — a blue inspired, Jarman says, by the monochrome canvases of Yves Klein, the pure distant color of a summer sky at evening. In this work, blue becomes the medium for a meditation on mortality, "the color of thought" voiced against the absolute and unspeakable.

Blue is the latest example of what Robert Kelly, in his review of Donald Hall's *Life Work*, called "a strange new genre: autothanatography," the telling of one's own death. The script is based on the diaries Jarman kept during his long daily visits to St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London, chronicling his gradual loss of vision, the indignities of receiving charity, the rage and the tender memories he harbors for the world he is leaving, and the curiosity and resignation with which he greets his dying. Read by his friends John Quentin, Nigel Terry and Tilda Swinton, and meticulously scored by Simon Fisher Turner, Jarman's reflections, in turn, release us into our own. It's an unusual experience, at turns eerie and boring.

Jarman began his career as a painter at the Slade, and became interested in filmmaking when he was asked by Ken Russell to design the lurid sets for *The Devils*. In his own films (especially those of the last decade), it sometimes seemed that every element had been sacrificed to the sovereignty of the visual image, the archetypal tableau, the rich fusion of color. Thus the tremendous effect of Jarman's reversal in *Blue*, his refusal of every image except those conjured by his words or the optical accidents of the viewer's retina as it studies the unremitting blue of the screen.

In a recent interview, Jarman insisted that *Blue* is not an avant-garde experiment but a way of addressing what can't be said or shown. "It is a sort of a vacuum." In the same way, *Blue* is not a film about AIDS, because in Jarman's view, "The experience of AIDS is simply too wide for anyone to put into one film." When Gregg Araki's *The Living End* was shown in London, Jarman objected to its slick mendacity. "HIV is not dramatic, it is boring." In an open letter to the *Guardian*, Jarman chided Araki: "You resolved your film in a sympathetic and gentle way with the two boys sitting by the sea. Why didn't you allow them to blow their heads off?"

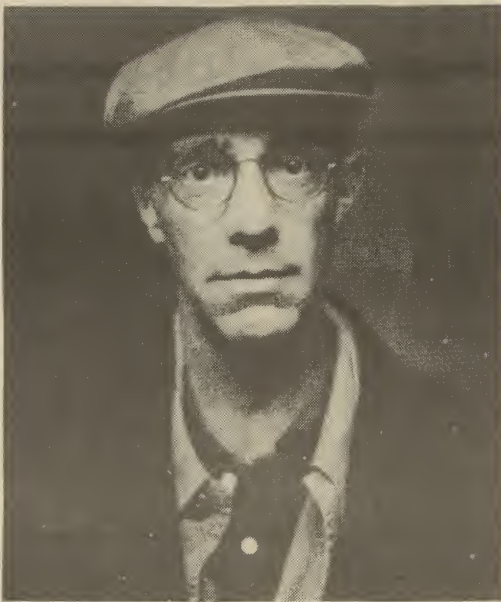
Jarman's impatience with platitudes is evident in *Blue*: "I shall not win the battle against the virus — in spite of slogans like 'Living with AIDS.' The virus was appropriated by the well; so we

have to live with AIDS while they spread the quilt...Awareness is heightened by this, but something else is lost. A sense of reality drowned in the atre."

While any meditation on death inevitably verges upon the "sacred," Jarman refuses to be seduced. "The Gautama Buddha instructs me to walk

The only credo allowed is that of the artist whose spirit will see even as sight fails.

away from illness. But he wasn't attached to a drip." This savage irony is then restated as lament, as the recognition of doom. "How can I walk away with a drip attached to me? How am I going to walk away from this?" It's this precise choreography of thought and feeling that makes *Blue* the achievement it is. Nothing is glamorized; pain is not subsumed in some transcendent vision. We travel with Jarman back and forth to the hospital, from disap-



Derek Jarman

pointment to disappointment, learning the routines of dying. "Blue protects white from innocence/Blue drags black with it/Blue is darkness made visible."

The only credo allowed is that of the artist whose spirit will see even as sight fails. Jarman abbreviates Blake: "If the doors of perception were cleansed then everything would be seen as it is." In this cleansed vision, despair does not disappear but is transposed into art. This is its mystery.

No one will remember our work

Our life will pass like the traces of a cloud
And be scattered like
Mist that is chased by the
Rays of the sun
For our time is the passing of
a shadow
And our lives will run like
Sparks through the stubble. ▼

Editor's note: Derek Jarman's *Blue* plays the Castro Theatre March 11-17. For information, call 621-6120.

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1920s Berlin Comes to 1990s San Francisco

Nina Hagen Does Anita Berber

by Erin Blackwell

People who haven't heard of Anita Berber — and who has? — have some delicious surprises in store for them. This decadent of decadents was too hot for even Weimar Germany — that brief, shining, post-kaiser/pre-fuhrer cultural explosion featuring democracy and erotic license — to handle. Mystic poet and nude dancer, sex-worker and cabaret artiste, substance abuser and live-sex actress, Berber finished herself off with tuberculosis at the age of 29 in 1928. All that's left are some poems (not available in English), two dozen silent films — and the legend.

Enter Mel Gordon. The mild-mannered U.C. Berkeley theater professor is writer/director of an homage/collage, presented by the Goethe-Institut, called *The Seven Addictions and Five Professions of Anita Berber*. The show, which plays Bimbo's March 23, 24 and 25, will not give Berber the Hollywood treatment. Gordon's interest in his subject, as befits a professor, is purely aesthetic. "I'm not interested in the melodrama of Berber," he emphasized, showing me around the institute's current exhibit on "ausdruckstanz" (expressionist body movement), which he curated. "I'm interested in exactly the opposite: with her addictions and her profession and how she used these ad-

ditions to create her art. One of the unusual things about Berber was, to get material for her art, she did these weird things, like addicted herself to morphine to see if she could get a morphine dance out of it."

"Ausdruckstanz," the dance/performance/spirituality movement that Anita Berber helped create, flourished in Germany until being exploited or suppressed by the incoming ubermenschen, those law-and-order hounds, those testosterone-poisoned patriarchal purists in stormtrooper boots known as nazis. "Ausdruckstanz" was more than a genre, encompassing, according to Professor Gordon, "this whole new age related to therapy and feminism and sexuality and desire." Sounds kind of like San Francisco, doesn't it?

"The most spectacular dancer of the period and the greatest artist — not appreciated in her time, oddly enough — was Anita Berber," continued Gordon, with impassioned didacticism. Then he drew a modern parallel. "Anita Berber wasn't appreciated in her time because she was seen as a kind of sex goddess. So it's sort of like talking about the acting of Marilyn Monroe. When Marilyn Monroe was alive and performing, people weren't talking much about the quality of her acting. They were talking about her sexual persona."

With historical distance, everybody's recuperable. "She's been rediscovered," Gordon explained, "not only as an image of sexuality in the '20s and someone who went way too far in sexuality and drugs and all that, but for the first time people are be-



Peter Stack and Jennifer P., erotic dancer. (Photo: Craig Barnes)

ginning to understand what a great choreographer she was. What a great writer she was. All these things that were not seen at the time because they were mixed into this other erotic persona."

To celebrate this ecstatic/erotic/mystic German genius, Austrian-born producer Veronika Hausle has assembled a seductive group of artists to collaborate on the multimedia extravaganza. Originally signed-on as translator, Hausle's participation has transformed what was to have been a re-creation into an event, drawing on her

experience with underground dance parties. Making the connections between 1920s Berlin and 1990s San Francisco, Hausle sees our fair town "as the starting point for this whole Anita Berber thing, because as far as I'm concerned, it is the kind of city where decadence has no limits." The "whole Anita Berber thing" will include, if Hausle has her way, translations of Berber's work and biography, plus a film.

For the moment, we'll have to settle for Nina Hagen — that's right, Nina Hagen, who will sing four songs composed for the occasion by Alphabet Soup, which Hausle describes as the "number one hip-hop jazz band in SF right now." Peter Stack, of Dead Marilyn repute, will MC the cabaret-style homage, for which Hyperdelic Video is creating interactive videos, to include footage from Berber's silent films. Bimbo's, the grande dame of Frisco nightlife, was "only a little concerned about the nudity," confided Hausle, "and you know, the sort of decadent aspect of the show — but now they're so excited," that they're into it. Well, that happens to people. Hausle hopes it'll happen to the audience, who are encouraged to get into the act by dusting off their Weimaresque duds, for which prizes will be awarded.

Editor's note: Nina Hagen will perform at Bimbo's Wednesday, March 23 through Friday, March 25, 1025 Columbus Ave. at Chestnut St. For information, call 391-0370. On Thursday, March 10, the Goethe-Institut will present Dances of Vice (6:30 p.m.), Rosa von Praunheim's expressionistic view of moments from Anita Berber's life filtered through the fantasies of an elderly woman (Lotti Huber). The Goethe-Institut is at 530 Bush St. Admission is free. For more information about the film and the whole "Anita Berber thing" call the Goethe-Institut at 391-0370.

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Anita Berber and Sebastian Droste, 1922. (Photo: Craig Barnes)

Performance

Djola Bernard Branner's 'The Sadie Series' Solo Pomo



Djola Bernard Branner, left, and Eric Gupton, right, in *Dark Fruit*, a Pomo Afro Homo production.

by Wendell Ricketts

In 1985, when George C. Wolfe wrote the section of *The Colored Museum* that he called "The Last Mama-on-the-Couch Play" — a scathing parody of *Raisin in the Sun* and similar dramas — he couldn't have guessed that the next generation of African-American theatre would include the likes of the PomoAfroHomos. Or

that Djola Bernard Branner — a founding member of the Post-Modern African-American Homosexuals trio — would end up doing a turn on black mamas and their sons that would leave audiences gasping.

Anyone who has seen the first of the Pomos' two evening-length shows, *Dark Fruit*, will recall Branner's monologue, "Sweet Sadie," in which he plays, by turns, his

mother as a younger woman and as an Alzheimer's-afflicted 76-year old; his mother's boyfriend; and himself as a child, an adolescent, and an adult.

Branner, a dancer and teacher of dance for nearly a decade, as well as a poet and journalist, has performed with the Pomos since its inception. This Sunday, March 13th at 7:30, at Berkeley's La Pena Cultural Center, Branner premieres his solo work, *The Sadie Series*, an expanded, three-part version of the "Sweet Sadie" monologue.

Branner's new work is part of the two-month-old FBP ("For Black People") performance series sponsored by La Pena and co-cured by Marvin White and Sebastian Robin Craig. The FBP Series is an experiment — by all accounts, already a highly successful one — that Marvin White says "got started as a way to expose progressive black artists to black audiences." (On March 13th, singer-songwriter Craig shares the bill with Branner in "My Head Is A Haunted House: Boo!" — a cycle of Craig's new songs.)

time Branner was turning into a man and an artist, his mother had already slipped into the incoherence of

Branner describes a maternal bond in *The Sadie Series* that is fairly ambivalent. And that's putting it mildly.

Alzheimer's. As a result, his growing up took place largely under the gaze of a woman who was at first simply too distracted — and later too ill — to pay much attention.

Says Branner, "Your mother is the first relationship you have in the world, and it's often a difficult one. People sometimes think that "Sweet Sadie" is an attempt to impli-

cate my mother for my homosexuality, but really it's about a parent who keeps crossing over boundaries." The way Branner plays it in *Dark Fruit*, for example, Sadie's affectionate pet phrase for her son, "Mama's little man," is enough to make you shudder.

The FBP Series runs every Sunday evening through June. Highlights for the month of March include, on the 27th, a collaboration created especially for FBP by East Bay poet Carmen Thompson and jazz musician D'Armon Boone, as well as "The Speakeasy," an open mike for black performers that follows every scheduled performance.

On March 20th, FBP presents "Blackbirds Boogie in the Black Moonlight," a one-act performance poem by San Francisco poet and playwright Wayne Corbitt, "a proud African-American homoradical person with AIDS living on the edge," set to live saxophone by Mills College professor and musician Glenn Spearman.

For more information, call 510-980-9482. "It's FBP," says Marvin White, "but it's not FBP only." ▼

Mommy complex

The unexpected last son of a 42-year-old woman who had already raised three children — and the withdrawn "nappy-headed boy" that his mother didn't know what to do with — Branner describes a maternal bond in *The Sadie Series* that is fairly ambivalent. And that's putting it mildly.

"The relationship between a single mom and a son is often precarious," Branner's character says at one point. "Still I had no reason to suspect that ours was unusual. . . . Don't all little boys zip their mommies up? Hand them a towel when they step out of the tub?"

It's a situation that not a few gay men will be able to relate to: an eerie intimacy with mom that, paradoxically, leaves the son lonely and empty at the core. By the

Divas on Disc

by Philip Campbell

Music lovers may never see another golden age of operatic singing. When Flagstad taught us about purity and power, Tebaldi about tone and legato, and Sutherland about agility, what was it all intended to portray?

Divas (goddesses) have been replaced, largely, by competent professionals. Still, every generation has its share of star talent and the following discs reveal some pleasing aspects of current prima donna careers.

Harolyn Blackwell
Strange Hurt
RCA Victor/BMG

Harolyn Blackwell is the lovely soprano who replaced Kathleen Battle after she was fired from the Met this season. No one will deny Battle's spectacular talent, and there will, no doubt, be unfair comparisons. But, while Blackwell is not Battle, she is a 'voice' in her own right and this disc should win enthusiastic fans.

On this album, Maury



Yeston, composer of the Broadway musical *Nine* has contributed a cycle of ten varied numbers called "December Songs," which depict the eventual healing of a broken heart.

The music is reminiscent of Sondheim, expertly orchestrated by Jonathan Tunick who has often worked with that composer. Pity, that Yeston's words are often

short of Sondheim's brilliance. This is a pop song cycle that is often effective and bravely ambitious.

"Genius Child," with music by Ricky Ian Gordon, set to poems by Langston Hughes, sounds more conventionally 'serious'. The spare piano accompaniment beautifully highlights the superior word play. (Continued on next page)

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John Fisher's 'Napoleon: The Camp-Drag-Disco-Musical Extravaganza'

The Man From Corsica Revised

by Jerry Metzker

With a title like *Napoleon: The Camp-Drag-Disco-Musical Extravaganza*, a production had better be able to deliver, and fortunately, this one does. *Pageant* and *La Cage Aux Folles* have nothing on this show, except maybe mainstream success. A co-production of San Francisco's Jawbone Theatre Ensemble and the UC Berkeley Department of Dramatic Art, *Napoleon* is part Charles Ludlam, part English pantomime, part biography and all entertainment.

Written and directed by UC doctoral candidate John Fisher, *Napoleon* starts off as a biography of the self-crowned French emperor, but Fisher refuses to let prosaic history rule here. He immediately introduces Josephine, who is no ordinary woman. Josephine is not just played by a man in drag; she is a man in drag. And Napoleon falls instantly for her. Together they set out to spread a vision of the "French Revolution" not found in any history book across the globe.

As Fisher takes us through Napoleon's life, he leaves no stone unturned, no diplomat either. They are all here and made totally silly: Pope Pius VII, the nelly pontiff who supports Napoleon until he starts carrying on with Czar Alexander; King George III of England; Holy Roman Emperor Leopold II; and Czar Alexander I, who allies himself with Napoleon for prurient purposes. In particular,

George III — played at various times by an actor, an actress, and a head of cabbage — receives Fisher's nastiest barbs.

This production, besides taking place wherever Napoleon traveled, namely all over the world, is also full of music. "Hooked on Classics" pales in comparison to musical director Phil Lowry's use of Verdi, Bach, Rachmaninoff, Puccini, Mozart, Strauss, and a whole gaggle of classical composers. As no lyricist is credited, I presume Fisher himself penned the witty words to the songs. At times the show sounds like an Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, only more authentic.

Josephine is not just played by a man in drag; she is a man in drag.

Heck of a Good Time

Lowry and co-pianist Philipp Blume also get into the show as Beethoven and Haydn respectively. They along with 33 other actors, most of them UC Berkeley students, comprise the cast. Although uneven in ability, the actors all perform with great energy and truly seem to be having a heck of a good time.

Performances of particular note are Elsa Watthausen as the spoiled Hapsburg princess

Marie-Louise; Jerry A. Lopez as Prince Talleyrand, an excessive devotee of Napoleon; Eve Magdalen as George III; Ted McClellan as Pius and Alexander; and Gabriel Macen as Josephine's drag pal, Madame Recamier.

Paul Tena is terrific as Josephine, watching her hopes for a revolutionized world in which gender is only a perspective rise and then fall with Napoleon.

And then there's Napoleon, who, as played by Christopher Herold, is an exquisite cross of Jack Nicholson and Paul Lynde, sometimes comic and sometimes threatening, but always on target. In a performance filled with high points, nowhere is his talent better displayed than in a scene where he plays both Napoleon and his infant son, Napoleon II.

For all its fun, *Napoleon* is more than just entertainment. It is a frank and perhaps even subtle questioning of what we perceive as history. As clear and lucid as history may appear, it is still colored by the perspective and prejudices of those who record and teach it.

Somehow I believe that the actual historical references here (Napoleon's successes and failures in war, his desertion of Josephine for a Hapsburg princess, and his death in exile) are accurate. These facts ground this wacky life story, giving it a strange but comforting sense of reality.

As to playwright and director Fisher's talent, there is no question. Even though the production runs like a dream out of control, a strong underlying creative vision keeps everything on track. How Fisher



Christopher Herold, Napoleon, and Paul Tena, Josephine, carry on like royal folk in this camp-drag disco extravaganza.

er does it I'm not exactly sure; this is just one of the wonders of excellent theatre.

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(Continued from previous page)

And Ms. Blackwell makes Yeston's piece a sweet experience — the edge of vulnerability in her voice lends the music a universal optimism.



Julianne Baird
Handel Arias
Newport Classic

American soprano Julianne Baird has been afforded two debut albums for her new label. One is devoted to Bach arias and songs, but the best effort is devoted to the florid da capo English and Italian arias for voice and orchestra by Handel.

Baird has been heard to good effect on previous discs for Dorian, yet this star of the estimable American Bach Soloists comes into her own with this tasteful selection.

Her voice remains a trifle faceless. When will authenticists discover that personality needn't be sacrificed for historical accuracy? Lovers of

pure tone and pretty ornamentation will find much that is pleasing here.



Dagmar Schellenberger
Mozart: Arien
EMI Classics

How often does beauty, intelligence and musicality combine in one gifted form? Well, Cecilia Bartoli is currently rocking the world with her luxurious mezzo voice and mane of chocolate brown hair. Now, it appears, a young German will follow suit with a lyric soprano and the looks of a blonde movie star.

Dagmar Schellenberger has made her debut with several important opera houses, but this is her first solo album and it is a real find.

Her voice is sure and steady, perfectly suited to many Mozart roles and, best of all, it has genuine character and seductive tone.

The orchestral support is excellent and the program notes include enticing pic-

tures of the singer in varied roles at the Deutschen Oper Berlin. We'll be hearing more from this one.



Arleen Auger
The Art of Arleen Auger
Koch International Classics

The beloved American soprano Arleen Auger died last year — the result of a brain tumor — tragically cutting short a career noted for elegant taste and sheer beauty of sound. Her final album is not as satisfying as another solo disc called *Love Songs* (Delos International), but it serves as a reminder of her great artistry and includes a major premiere recording of Libby Larsen's *Sonnets from the Portuguese*, set to texts by Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

Songs by Henry Purcell, Schumann and Mozart round out a fitting tribute to Auger's silvery tone and deep understanding of word painting. She will be sorely missed. ▼

Music

New Music

by Adrian Roberts

Bikini Kill
Pussy Whipped
(Kill Rock Stars)

This disc has been out for a while, but it somehow keeps finding its way into my stereo. It may be short — the disc's 12 songs clock in at only 25 minutes — but brevity lends this recording a sense of angry urgency. Not to mention Kathleen Hanna's intense scream-singing. Of course, you can't make out most of it without the aid of the lyric sheet, but that's not the point. Having coined the slogan, "Revolution grrrl style now!" Bikini Kill is doing all it can to be In Your Face. Their abrasive punk-dyke style doesn't necessarily lend itself to pristine production values, which is good for them, since half this album sounds as if it had been recorded on a boom box in somebody's garage.

Cocteau Twins
Four-Calendar Cafe
(Capitol)

Like Bikini Kill, it's rare for Cocteau Twins' lyrics to be anything more than barely intelligible. But, unlike the aforementioned, vocalist Liz Fraser can actually sing, and it's that amazing, heaven-sent voice that makes you forget that you can't understand a single word she's saying. Except on this new album. For the first time Fraser *actually sings in English*, though much of it is still gobbledeygook. It's as if the Cocteaus are attempting to break out of their precious self-imposed art shell, an effort I applaud, though it doesn't necessarily ensure me to the end result. The music here is all quite pleasant and safe, but that — for me anyway — is the problem. Stripping away some of the trademark guitar textures and highlighting traditional pop song structures has given the material a bright, sickly-sweet quality. Gone are the dark atmospherics that gave the band's previous releases their distinctive, disturbing edge. If this is what kicking drugs has done for Robin Guthrie's songwriting ability, I'd prefer that he stay strung out. This is as disappointing as their self-designed album art.

Chainsaw Kittens
Pop Heiress
(MammothAtlantic)

This is yet another band in the "I liked them better back when..." category — though, admittedly, since lead singer Tyson Meade stopped wearing dresses, their music *has* gotten better. Which is not to say that this is a great album. It's not. But as far as glam-influenced rock songs go — as sung by a whiny femme from Oklahoma who is only occasionally annoying — it's not bad. Granted, it sinks into mundanity three-quarters of the way through, but not before bowling you over with the infectious charm of "Pop Heiress Dies" and "Closest Song," a first-side double-whammy of glistening pop brilliance. ▼

Books

Dangerous

Try by Dennis Cooper; Grove Press, \$20

by Roberto Friedman

Dear Mr. Dennis Cooper,
Wow. I'm still blown away from reading your new novel, *Try*, which is so fucking intense it's hard to describe. Well, basically it's about this kid, Ziggy, who has two gay dads, both of whom sexually abuse him *okay*, one in a nice way by rimming and fisting him, the other in a non-nice way, like beating him up and fucking him since he was 8. Ziggy's pretty fucked up by all this, but he knows it, so he's endearing.

No one else really writes about this kind of dysfunctional stuff, Mr. Cooper. Or if it even gets discussed, it's either in a hypersensational, alarmist way, like *save our children!* Or else it's really clinical, like in a concerned social worker way. But you seem unafraid of depraved people, getting inside the craziness in their heads and putting it down on paper in a dangerous way.

Now I'm just a poor hustler, but even I know that "gay fiction" doesn't usually begin to cover even *my* little world. But here you've got this fucked up "gay family", a strung-out smack addict disconnecting from everything, a maker of kiddie porn, assorted junkies, dealers and child abusers, oh and a necrophiliac for topplers. The kind of a guy who gets into sex with a dead kid's body after it's been murdered and raped. All in 199 pages. Cool.

Boy mutilation sorta leaves me queasy, but you gotta keep on writing what you do, Mr. C. For one thing, it takes guts. And the thing is, in all this amorality there's a moral in there, somewhere. Your books, *Safe*, *Closer*, *Frisk* and *Wrong*, they're like fables, weird, demented Aesop's Fables or something. Like, all the animal parts are played by humans, but they're still animals somehow.

This new novel is like you've finally zeroed in on your subject, like you've put your finger on the butthole you want to explore in depth. As Ziggy's "nice" dad Roger puts it in a letter: "To me teenaged boys of the sort I have indicated are an example of human beings at their most fiercely alive, most...evolved, let me say. ...As for what I like to do with them, rimming's the technical term for it. 'Eating ass' is a lowlier synonym. Do you know that many, many gay men are more interested in asses than they are in big cocks, despite all the hype to the contrary?" To Rog, exploring Zig's crevice as fully as possible — with his tongue, with his forearm — is just getting to know youth.

The creepier characters are probably as close as we're going to get to the representation of a Jeffrey Dahmer or a John Gacy in fiction. Ziggy, meanwhile, is a sweet, pathetic antihero, lost in a Cooperish nightmare world. He wallows in insecurity like he reeks of B.O., a real boy, maybe a little weirded-out all the time. He sort of balances out all the other horrors. Try

is your best book yet, deadpan like the rest, but more modulated, textured. Reading it put me in a real zoned-out place, but it wasn't a downer. Try isn't bleak, it's charged on the energy of your language and vision. It even has a happy ending, sort of.

"This new novel is like you've finally zeroed in on your subject, like you've put your finger on the butthole you want to explore in depth."

I just can't wait to see how your rumored collaboration with David Lynch, *Lethal Injection*, turns out. You both share a taste for, uh, violence and the sicko stuff lurking be-



hind the facade of... uh, suburban high school teens, or whatever. Fucked-up products of fucked-up society, blah blah blah.

I know you could care less about all this. Me ladling on the praise is totally redundant. It's like some lame rock reviewer singing praises to

Pavement. Duh. Everybody already knows you're the greatest gay writer. But thanks for the amazing book. It gave me creeped-out goosebumps, but that's how I know I'm alive.

Your fan and your man,
"Rusty" ▼



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Berlin

(Continued from page 29)

here's a hilarious audience pleaser. Sadly, the crowd stopped laughing when director Kristiene Clarke revealed that Bernhard has blocked distribution of this flick in America. Although Bernhard, who likes the final product, okayed the film for a BBC airing, she's afraid U.S. distribution will pummel her image.

Danish director Knud Vesterskov's complex *By the Dawn's Early Light*, is the visual equivalent of great poetry. Each frame has been painstakingly constructed. Using fragments from cult writer David Wojnarowicz's "Close To The Knives" (the late author reads his own words), we are taken on a frightening acid trip, one that is at turns erotic and sadistic, and always enticing; it's a journey through a rotting carnival called America.

Director Gregg Bordowitz' terrific AIDS semi-documentary, *Fast Trip, Long Drop*, records Alter Allesman's feelings about his contraction of AIDS, his revelations on learning he was homosexual, his parents' reactions to ev-

erything occurring to him and the tie-in of AIDS to his Jewishness. The witty film ends with the Allesman character, portrayed by Bordowitz, getting driving lessons in 1995. This is a must-see film — and you will, readers, for it's been

Zero Patience is an AIDS musical with singing anuses and an operatic HIV virus that swims in a puddle of blood.

chosen as the closing night feature in June's Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

One acclaimed documentary that has already been purchased by PBS for a June airing is Teodoro Maniaci's and Francine Rzezniak's *One Nation Under God*. This production, which has already

been screened in several San Francisco film festivals, explores organizations that convert homosexuals to heterosexuality. One of its more ironic stories concerns the two men who started the Christian organization, Exodus International. After the two converted to heterosexuality, they got married to women, had children and made their organization an international success. But ten years later, after realizing they were in love with each other, they quit Exodus — which still exists — and got married.

Eagle Scout, the Story of Henry Nicols concentrates on a teenager who (he was infected with HIV at age 12) musters the courage to let the world know he's infected. At his first press conference, he notes, "Until yesterday I never told anybody that I had AIDS. I never told my best friend, a girlfriend or a relative...If I had cancer or leukemia, I could have told anyone."

The film captures the boy's efforts to live a normal life, which includes his attempts to become an Eagle Scout, the Boy Scout's highest honor. The only thing



A scene from *Coming Out Under Fire*.

lacking in this fine feature is that it never directly states that if Henry had been gay, the Boy Scouts and other supporters like General

Schwartzkopf, would never have been by his side and that then-President George Bush would not have sent him a congratulatory telegram.

Arthur Dong's timely *Coming Out Under Fire*, based upon Allan Berube's book, is a fusion of actual World War II army training films and interviews with nine men and women who, besides fighting our nation's battles, wound up fighting our nation's bigotry.

David Adkin's *Out: Stories of Lesbian and Gay Youth* focuses upon the struggles of young gays and lesbians of varied ethnicity and degrees of masculinity and femininity. In between their tales, Kids in the Hall's Scott Thompson tells of the time he told a fag-basher: "You're going into a world that is changing — drastically. And in ten years, it's going to be uncool to hate homosexuals, as it is to be racist. So you better get ready for that world."

Earthly lesbians

One quirky film that caused quite a stir was Rose Troche's *Go Fish*, a black-and-white comedy that chronicles the daily exploits of a group of earthy lesbians. One named Max hasn't had sex in months; can she fall for the much older, hippyish Ely? Well, as soon as Ely gets a butch haircut, you can hear the wedding bells chime.

John Greyson's *Zero Patience* is an AIDS musical with singing anuses, an operatic HIV virus that swims in a puddle of blood, plus a nudie Can-Can in a bath house. The story follows Sir Richard Burton as he puts together a museum exhibit chronicling the start of AIDS. He pins the disease on Patient Zero, the infamous Canadian airline steward. It ain't *Gigi*, but it's certainly better than *The Man of La Mancha*. Sample song titles: "Pop a Boner" and "The Butthole Duet."

Among the many shorts, Camera Obscura's *New Freedom* (U.S.A.; 9 minutes) was definitely the zaniest. A young woman with an uncontrollable menstrual flow is tired of being teased by the boys in her class. So, in an act of revenge, she performs a hysterectomy on herself and serves her baked uterus on crackers to her former tor-

(Continued on next page)

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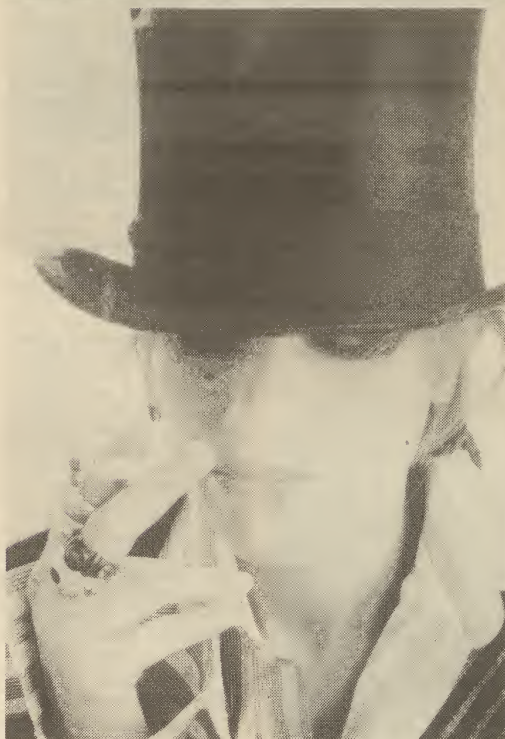
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Sandra Bernhard turns the tables on Roseanne.

Roseanne

(Continued from page 29)

kiss just a little," suggests Nancy, the next day. "That's ridiculous," says Roseanne tenuously. It is a rare display of uncertainty for the ever confident Roseanne. Here, she begins to fear being gay and that it's not o.k. The scene is an indication both to herself and to those around her that Roseanne is not as "cool" as she thinks she is. "This is exactly why I didn't want to invite you in the first place," says an angry

Nancy later in the episode. "Because you're a total hypocrite."

Queer-sensitive

But no matter how flawed the fictional Roseanne Conner may be, Roseanne Arnold — the real life comic — has always been an astute social critic. And her grasp of gay-related humor is no exception. At the top of the show, when she and Jackie walk into the bar, Jackie spots her "mailman...woman...lesbian." The postal worker waves and Jackie says to Roseanne, "She

waved at me, what do I do?" Rosie says, "Well, wave back." Jackie waves, and then says, "She's smiling at me." Rosie says, "Well, yeah, that's because everybody knows that waving is the international gay signal."

In this instance, Arnold's humor derives solely from

Other sitcoms tackling gay subjects merely preach "tolerance" of gays and lesbians, but Arnold peels off that liberal facade and asks what's wrong with herself.

new faces around here." Then she fixes her gaze on Roseanne and adds, "especially pretty ones like yours."

"Well, thank you...Marge," says Roseanne, as she reads the barmaid's nametag "You're not so bad yourself." Jackie, freaked out that she's even in the bar, whispers to Roseanne, "What are you doing?" And Rosie responds, "I'm doing what I do in any bar, scoring free drinks."

Once again, it's a funny gay joke, without a trace of homophobia. If anything Arnold levels the playing field. Where free drinks are involved, there is no difference between a straight bartender hitting on her and a gay one doing the same. That is her bottom line. It is Roseanne as equalizer.

Skewers self

The show's best line belongs to Leon, who tells Roseanne upon seeing her in

the bar that he wasn't sure it was really her or a "drag queen doing a really bad Liz Taylor."

If that sounds mean, that's because it is — the line skewers Roseanne, which is what this episode is all about. Other sitcoms tackling gay subjects merely preach "tolerance" of gays and lesbians — which is shallow because it implies that there's something "wrong" with us that requires tolerance — but Arnold peels off that liberal facade and asks what's wrong with herself. She confronts her own character's deep-seated bigotry.

In real life, and on television, Roseanne Arnold is an activist, for women's rights, civil rights, and lesbian and gay rights. This episode tests whether or not she can practice what she preaches. The TV Roseanne did just okay, but the real-life Roseanne aced the test. ▼



Roseanne

(Continued from previous page) mentors.

Heavy Blow deals with a tough guy who unknowingly gay bashes his girl friend's best pal; in *Thick Lips Thin Lips*, two men, one Chinese, one black, keep kissing even when confronted by homophobia and racism. Sande Zeig's *Central Park* captured a black lesbian with a pierced nipple making love to a white lesbian in a canoe. Later the white woman is seen humping the same canoe, but now it's full of flowers. In these films, important matters are dealt with swiftly and with a steady hand.

The Gay Teddy Awards, which are presented annually by the International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival Association (IGLFFA), are possibly the most prestigious gay film awards available. This year they were given out in the giant concert hall, Metropoli. The place was packed — tush to tush. Entertainment included Jimmy Summerville and a singing cowboy who stripped.

The Awards:

The Magnus Readers Award for Best Gay Film: *Heavy Blow*. U.S. director Hoang A. Duong, on accept-

ing the award, noted his film wasn't a gay film because it didn't go to bed with other films of the same sex.

Metropol Audience Favorite: *Fresa Y Chocolate* (*Strawberry and Chocolate*). Cuban directors Tomas Gutierrez Alea and Juan Carlos Tabio tell the love story between a young political straight who worships Castro and an artistic gay man with democratic leanings who tries to get his clothes off by spilling coffee on them.

IGLFFA Teddy Award for Best Short: *Carmelita Tropicana: Your Kunst Is Your Waffeln*. Director: Ela Troyano. Plot: Lesbian Carmelita is Ms. Lower-East Side Beauty Queen and this is her life.

IGLFFA Teddy Award for Best Documentary: *Coming Out Under Fire*. Director Dong, upon accepting his Teddy, shared that his first teddy was one his mother had found on a street, discarded by some other child.

IGLFFA Teddy Award for Best Feature: *Go Fish*

Special Polar Bear Award honored the organizers of the International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival in Bucharest, three young men who are now in prison for being gay. ▼

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Steven Scarborough's Sweaty Spectacular Sexcapades

Der Schwing Cycle

by Tom Bacchus

"Excess is best" seems to be the guiding aesthetic behind the expansive porn trilogy of Steven Scarborough, the director of flesh adventures *The Conflict* and *Redemption*. While Hollywood has shown us time and again that sequels are proof only of the law of diminishing returns, these two sequels are surprisingly fresh additions to Scarborough's burgeoning oeuvre.

Using an impressive array of tracking shots, multiple subplots and scads of hot uniformed hunks in warehouse settings, Scarborough has created an uber-genre all its own, an elaborate militaristic cabal of sex slaves, taunting officers and unleashed fantasies.

Some favorites don't get much screen time. Poor little Rob Cryston, chained to a wall, peels potatoes and sucks off leatherman Iron Mike Pereyra, but doesn't get any other action. Pity.

Jake Andrews also gets meager flesh time, but his moments of loving torture with a hung-by-the-wrists, then kneeling Chance Caldwell ejaculating on his boots are *terr gutt*.

Cliff Parker also gets short shrift, but shines in his moment of nearly no-hands ejaculation. He could lead this reviewer around on a collar any night.

In Part 2, *Redemption*, court wizard Ggreg Taylor, in the most fabulous drag-cameo-in-porn of the decade (sorry Chi-Chi), forces the midget wizard to use his healing powers on Prince Dezerad (played by a swarthy and gorgeous hunk with a massive pole). It seems the Prince, not unlike many mere humans, needs constant sex to stay alive. To fulfill his constant craving, hunk after

Scarborough has created an uber-genre all its own, an elaborate militaristic cabal of sex slaves, taunting officers and unleashed fantasies.

hunk is kidnapped and forced into sex, but, naturally, most don't put up much of a fuss.

Tom Katt is a drunken prison guard who gets gang-raped (a hard term for a muscle lush who simply couldn't say no if his sphincter de-



A bushel and some pecks: Chance Caldwell gets flogged by Jake Andrews.

pended on it) by a herd of randy prisoners. It's an amusing highlight, with the echo-

ing chorus of "Fuck! Fuck!" sounding like an X-rated cheerleading squad.

The leading roles, in charming opposition, are blonde Jesse Tyler and nasty man Zak Spears (thank God for body hair!). While Zak gets his boots licked by a leashed trio of masked slaves, Jesse, in other scenes, boffs his boyfriend farewell as he heads off to save the captives. The two finally end up wrestling over the box containing the Prince's magic secret, but it's each other's boxes they really want — and get — in this thorough fuck scene.

Local color

Of course, fantasies of submission, capture and torture being carried out by Nazified muscle thugs reeks of political incorrectitude, as does a fair number of the fucking scenes (and there are many, all using latex condoms, thank you). But the agenda-impaired will be pleased by the presence of a well-picked, slightly multiracial cast, one packed with a variety of celebs and local rent boys. Above all, the intensity of sexual expression and variety of action (jack off, table-top three-ways, mangy roll-in-the-hay humping) should please every sordid taste no matter their political bent. This is a seamy, sexy farce, after all, and, hey, some of these guys can really act!

Like a queer *Salon Kitty*, this reincarnated SA (the gay wing of the SS, exterminated in the Night of the Long Knives) is allowed its sordid excess, only to be vanquished by the do-good heroes (Awww).

Fists and enemas

Falcon's amusing infatuation with fisting is also included, as is an extended torture scene in which a runaway sex slave submits to a 40-gallon enema. (Highly ridiculous! If the poor pup had actually taken in that much fluid he'd be as bloated as Violet Beauregarde in *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*).

My only qualm with this tape is that while it's delightfully permissive anally, that liberality does not extend to all aspects of the film: for instance, the scene with four uniformed gents urinating never dares to show wieners gushing. What a piss-off!

These caveats aside, the sequel and conclusion of this ambitious trilogy are highly amusing. After enjoying them yourself (rent or buy them both to get the truly excessive thrill), they make a perfect party tape, a strangely compelling combination of fascist fashion, furious fucking and cocky camp. ▼

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Slaves enjoy intimacy as Zak Spears looks on.

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS AND FITNESS

Making the Stretch Toward Flexibility

by Dianne Aaronson

The entire concept of flexibility is an interesting one. Whether one is speaking of the physical or the emotional, the ability to be flexible seems to be a valued trait and implies a healthier, more fully integrated individual.

An athlete who displays an excellent range of motion, for instance, is usually considered to be in better shape than one who does not. Along these same lines, an individual who displays emotional or mental flexibility—such as the ability to adapt, to see another's point of view, etc.—is also usually viewed to be in "better shape" than one who does not.

So why is it that either none or very little of the skills necessary for these grand feats were ever taught us in school? And why is it that, even while possessing some knowledge in these areas, many of us tend to ignore skill strengthening of this type in lieu of something else?

Examples pertaining to the physical arena are fairly obvious: bodybuilders who remember cardiovascular exercise to lose fat and weight training to build muscle but skip on the time devoted to stretching. Runners who will devote an hour a day to running but never seem to have time for pre- or post-stretch routines until they suffer injuries. The list is endless.

Valuable Qualities

It seems that, on a cultural level, qualities such as strength and a "good-looking body" are emphasized more than a body which is internally healthy or flexible. Perhaps people feel that "flexibility" is an invisible quality and therefore not as valuable. However, it can be incredibly visible, because an inflexible body sticks out like a sore thumb.

Search your memory banks for the last time you noticed a person with an inflexible body. Perhaps you didn't even recognize it as such, but you probably made note of it just the same: an elderly person walking down the street bent over; a person with a stiff, disjointed gait; someone whose neck seemed unable to move independently of the head or shoulders. These are all signs of physical inflexibility.

In fact, oftentimes these are also signs of mental or emotional inflexibility. With years of studying movement psychology (the relationship between the emotional and the physical body) behind me, it is fairly easy for me to recognize an inflexible attitude in an individual by observing their body. Which comes first is hard to say.

Examples of mental/emotional inflexibility abound as well: business owners who refuse to change with the times, bosses who refuse to listen to their employees, cou-

ples who just can't hear the other's side because they're too busy telling their own. In many communities that I'm a part of, it seems that there is more emphasis on *defining* our own needs (not that I disagree with that) than *compromising* our own needs. In other words, if you can't get what you want with one partner, or one boss, there are a lot of other fish (partners, jobs) in the sea.

There are reasons for this attitude, of course. Though we may have been told as kids that it's nice to share our toys or our candy, I believe that, in general, emotional and mental flexibility is not stressed as a positive attribute.

I love having boundaries, yet I hate being restricted. That is where the elusive concept of flexibility comes in for me.

Though sociological studies suggest that girls are reared to compromise more than boys, cultural values still seem to lean more toward the ability to be independent, stand our ground, know what we want, get it and keep it. And though I consider myself the least likely candidate to talk intelligently about relationships, I wonder if this is one reason why so many of them fail. In an age when having fluid boundaries can earn one a co-dependent label, seeing the other guy's point of view is often condemned rather than con-

done. This is all crazy-making in light of the fact that there is still a standard out there somewhere that says a flexible person (physical and/or mental-emotional) is a valuable and healthy one. The question is, how can we learn to be more flexible without feeling that we are giving up our true selves?

Narrow Boundaries

Perhaps we define our boundaries too narrowly. Perhaps if we can expand the world we live in, the space that we define as ours, venturing out a little further from our core selves will not feel like visiting a foreign country or a symbolic death.

Consider a physical example: a person with limited flexibility in various leg muscles will interpret (and rightly so) a request to do a full split as dangerous. However, if she/he had been stretching daily, pushing that envelope

more, that request might be perceived as an achievable, possibly even pleasurable, challenge. If we are able to expand our boundaries by stretching from the inside out, we may be able to enlarge our world without feeling like we are leaving ourselves.

On a mental or emotional level, there are many possible examples. Perhaps in the past we have let ourselves be defined by certain fears, such as a fear of heights, flying or driving, or certain social situations. Or perhaps we have limited who we are by certain dislikes (particular foods, people, places). Pushing the boundaries in these cases would involve meeting these fears or dislikes and venturing out a little more each time—slowly, like a careful stretch.

After a few encounters with a particular type of food, for example, maybe "dislike" will be exchanged for another feeling. Perhaps after enough times in a fearful social situation, the sensation felt will



SSSSSttrreeetch!

come to be defined as a slight discomfort, no longer fear, no longer a restricting factor. I love having boundaries, yet I hate being restricted. That is where the elusive concept of flexibility comes in for me.

Because the physical is often interchangeable with the mental/emotional, it doesn't necessarily matter where you start. Meeting your fears will probably indirectly soften up your body. Stretching physically may help to expand

your mind. Practitioners of hatha yoga certainly believe that.

In my next article I will review some physical exercises, as well as some mental ones, for stretching the envelope. In the meantime, if this is an area of interest for you, doing some writing or meditation on some possible areas of inflexibility in your own life can help begin the process. Awareness is always the first step. ▼

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Fire Dept. Douses Hotshots

by Joe Nelson

Last week, for the first time this season, the Hotshots were ahead of their opponent for the better part of a game. But, alas, they could not sustain the energy needed to turn a lucky streak into a win. The final score was 71 to 64, in favor of the SF Fire Dept. team.

Though they lost again, the Hotshots got off to a good start, leading 18 to 17 in the first eight minutes of the

game. But at half-time the score changed 30 to 24 against them and, though the team briefly recovered, the players scored only a couple points before the final collapse. With eight minutes remaining, the Hotshots were outscored 10 to two in the next two minutes. Worse, eight of the SF Fire Dept.'s points were fast breaks, indicating that the Hotshots had worn out.

The Hotshots, generally speaking, are relatively short for this league. They're also older. Of nine players, five

are well over 30 in a league comprised mostly of 20-year-old players. While there's certainly nothing wrong with that, it does mean that conditioning and endurance — critical factors in maintaining the competitive edge in the upcoming New York Gay Games — might have less predictable, positive results. Nevertheless, these league games have been a terrific training exercise for this team.

The stars of last week's game included: Alex Herrera (19 points); Corey Randle (12 points, 12 rebounds and four blocks); Mark Johnson (15 points, nine rebounds).

It must be frustrating for the team to lose once again to the SFFD, a team the Hotshots have never beaten, but always challenged. Tonight, March 10, the Hotshots play at 7:40 against the Alice Marble team at the Collingwood Gym. ▼

S.F. G.S.L. Roster for 1994



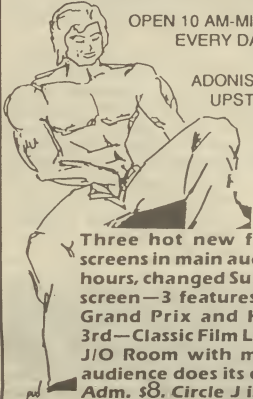
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Opening Day for SFGSL

A fun day was had by the 600-plus people who showed

up at Lang Field on Sunday to celebrate opening day for the San Francisco Gay Softball League. The event, which lasted from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., featured four exhibition games.

On hand for the ceremonies: Tom Ammiano, who hosted the event, Carole Migden, Milton Marks and Susan Leal. The day was

dedicated to the memory of Rick Brattin, who was a major player in the Softball League for 14 years. A memorial plaque honoring Rick was given to his family, who were on hand for the ceremonies. The day's events were organized by a committee headed up by SFGSL executive-board member Hunter Mills. ▼

Avengers, The Cafe And Others Face-Off in Season Opener

Flag Football Kicks Off

by Maureen Hogan

Sunday's opening day game for Women's Flag Football was a big success. The veteran teams had a chance to polish their skills and two of the three rookie teams found out what they needed to have in order to succeed.

The Avengers challenged last fall's champ, The Cafe, and came out with a bang, scoring early with a pass from Jen to Bonnie. On the Avenger's next possession, Maria intercepted and ran in for a touch-down. This tied the game (6-6) until half-time. The score remained the same until early in the fourth quarter when quarterback Jen hit Karen on a 20-yard scoring pass. This put the Avengers ahead for the rest of the game. The final score was 12-6.

The second game of the day pitted the Rebels against the Warriors. The Rebels scored on their opening drive. They scored again the next

time they got the ball, when Laura hit Michelle open in the end zone, making the score 13-0. The Rebels poured it on in the second quarter with an interception and another touch-down pass to Lisa. This score was now 26-0. The Warriors got on the score board when quarterback Ann found Gayla open for a score and ran it in to score on a long run, but it was called back on a penalty, making the final score 26-8.

The third game was last season's runner-up, the Girlfriends, vs. one of our rookie teams, Yikes! It was apparent that these were two talented teams, but the Girlfriends had experience in their favor. The Girlfriend's first possession resulted in a scoring pass from Mary to Carol. Then, in the second quarter, quarterback Mary found Marla in the end zone and, later in the quarter, connected with Cinda on a 40-yard touch-down, which left the score 20-0 at the half.

(Continued on page 47)



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PARTING GLANCES

Becks Motor Lodge. Tues. 2/22, 11:30 p.m. saw you by your car. You got into my truck and we went to near-by lot. Talked then played. Are you free to play again? EXT 2272.

Red Pickup & Black & White Spaniel. You blonde, me on motorcycle. We shared glances under freeway at Duboce & Harrison 2/24, then again at light at 18th & Castro on 3/7, I remembered seeing your dog and said hello. How about lunch sometime? EXT 2273.

Corner of Bush & Jones. 2/27, Sun. You very attr GAW, me grey pants, striped shirt. Kept looking at each other, pls call. EXT 2282.

MEN SEEKING RELATIONSHIPS

Paraplegic/Seeking Gay/BI/LIA para. friends? Dating? GWM para. 38, BI/Gr, red beard/moustache, hairy. EXT 2221

GWM, tall, 32, 235#, smoker, nice guy still seeking LTR with chubby GAWM who is jovial, good natured, caring, 35-55. EXT 2222.

Hot, masculine GBM seeks GWM, 30's, with hungry ass for eager dick, versatile on occasion, leather types a plus. EXT 2224.

Goodlooking, 28, GWM, 5'6", 135, BI/BI, HIVneg, honest seeks monogamous, attractive, masculine partner. Call. What can we lose. EXT 2225.

Handsome GWM, 35, HIVpos, healthy, top, BI/BI, 6', 175, clean cut, smoker, occasional recreational drugs, Cut 8", seeking passionate, handsome young man for dating/possible relationship. I enjoy safe sex and more. EXT 2228

Hairy GWM, 239#, husky, balding, moustache seeks guy, 20-30, with attractive boyish looks for possible relationship. I enjoy safe sex and more. EXT 2228

Sincere GAW, 5'9", 150, Handsome, solid, living in Taipei. Seeks pen-pal, romance & possible LTR with caring special GWM. EXT 2236

Handsome, affectionate WM, 37, 6'1", 180#, wants to cuddle with slim, boyish student pal. You: 18-21 (look younger?), fun & romantic. EXT 2237.

Mind plus Brawn, 34 y/o HIV- natural good looks, in shape blonde, masculine, spiritual man seeking non-clone 25-35 y/o keen, intelligent, w/ defined body. EXT 2238.

Masculine & Gyrtoned Asian, 46, 5'9", seeks similar clean-shaven & smooth WM for friendship or safe intimate encounters. EXT 2239.

Attractive, sincere, masculine, sensual, HIV-, bearded, hairy, trim WM, 40, 140#, 5'6". Seeks friendship-LTR w/ fascinating, healthy, opportunistic WHM. N/S, N/D, no bars. EXT 2240.

I love the Bay Area. Seeking friends into bicycling, ballet/dance, fetish for rights, not into drag. I live in Orlando, FL. EXT 2241.

Goodlooking GWM, 24, seeks cute camping, hiking, dinner, & cuddling partner. Possible LTR with the right guy. HIV-. EXT 2242.

New kid moving to SF. GBM 34 195#, 6', hairy bottom, looking for someone to show me the city. EXT 2243.

Butt Play. 37 y/o bottom goodlooking, seeks teacher, experienced top for safe erotic buttplug kinky fantasies, like slings. EXT 2244.

Black Professional Male. Seeks white males 55-60 y/o who like black oral sex. Married men hungry for some loving, a plus. EXT 2245.

GWM 33y/o. Slim looking for LTR with Asian, white guys 25-35y/o. Be mature, fun loving and ready to commit. Lets talk. EXT 2246.

Looking for younger BM to make love to an older GWM. This GWM is looking to be loved by younger GBM ages 19-29 within SF area only. I am clean and very healthy. EXT 2247.

San Jose GWM, 40, 6'1", 195#, very goodlooking, built, interested in meeting WM 30-45 y/o, well endowed, masculine, muscular, hairy

chested for LTR, sharing - HIV+. EXT 2248.

Hawaiian, 6'1", 200#, seeks fun-loving bud. GYM-toned bunnies & attitude queens can go to next ad. Lovers of laughter & Sunday a.m.s, call me. EXT 2249.

Aussie Guy in Santa Rosa, 30's, 6', 180#, seeking friendship & possible LTR with mid 30's guy. Sense of humor a must. EXT 2250.

Blond bottom Man, 37, HIV-, beautiful buffed body seeks buffed blond HIV- boyfriend with a big meaty dick. I am lovable. EXT 2251.

Distinguishing Prof. 48 GWM, 5'8", 145#, cute all over, fun-loving, caring, sexy, needs a friend for LTR who's not into bars. Stuck in Vallejo waiting for you. EXT 2252.

GWM, 6'1", 159#, 30, br/br, stache, HIV+, cute, btm seeks GWM attract 18-45 top for honest dating & tr. Luv to kiss, cuddle, movies, etc. EXT 2255.

HIV+ Handsome, Healthy, versatile, successful GWM 6'4", 35, 240#. Wants handsome, versatile, affectionate man. EXT 2276.

BM, 45 dom top needs hot WM buns, 45+ to explore. I'm interested in more than a one night stand. EXT 2277.

Romantic GWM, 32, 6'5", 285#, average looking, relationship oriented. You GAW, GLM. Looks not important, heart is. Sincere only please. EXT 2278.

GAM, 30, 5'9", 175# in great shape, 42c, 30w, smart, quiet, n/s, not into bars. Seek guy 25-35 for relationship. EXT 2279.

Slender Hispanic boy 25y/o, HIV-, employed, good looking, seeks HIV-, straight acting latin or white guy for LTR. Be under 30! EXT 2280.

HIV+ top wanted. Needs dark hair, br eyes, stache. Any age (18+), race or size. BI/BI, 31, handsome seeks boyfriend for fun times and more. Privacy and discretion assured. No reciprocation necessary. Prefer tall, muscular or hairy. Cock size should be average to well endowed. I'm a small guy. Also seeking relationship. EXT 2286.

Hairy Husky GWM, 39, stache, balding. Seeks guy 20-30 w/ attractive boyish looks for possible relationship. I like bicycling, films, & sci-fi. EXT 2283.

Attractive GBM, 5'10", 150#, short blk hair, h2l eyes, well hung. Seeks GWM or GLM for friendship, sex, poss. LTR, movies, dinner, cuddling. EXT 2284.

GLM, 45y/o, 6', 190#, HIV-, goodlooking. Seeks masculine WM 18-30 for safe fun & friendship. EXT 2285.

Wheelchair guy, soon to be lawyer seeks big hearted, high self-esteem sincere guy to share enriching loving happiness & life. EXT 2286.

Fit WM, late 40s, unaffected bottom, seeks hung dominant top. I'm smooth, tight, very responsive and we're HIV-, health conscious, and very ready. Ongoing preferred. EXT 2287.

Dominant Men over 50 - I'm a bad boy 57yrs yv who needs discipline. Whip & love me, I'll do it your way - you make me do it. EXT 2288.

E. Bay Hwn, HIV+, healthy, smoker 26, hairy husky, thinning, seeks 25-35 GM for friendship & poss. LTR. No fems Rel. oriented only. EXT 2289.

MEN SEEKING ADVENTURE

Attn: All Butch tops. Very hot butch bottom seeks playbuddy. You be muscular, have moustache or beard and be very well hung. I'm a nice guy, young, very attractive, virile stud with moustache, muscular build, and a tight hungry hole. I know how to make you scream in wild ecstasy. NS, ND. EXT 2271.

My fantasy is to be topped by a fireman, cop, or hairy mountainman. I'm a young stud, very attractive, virile, muscular, moustached, great body, great heart, and very sensual. You be well built, have moustache or beard, and be very well hung. Lets get together and put out fires. NS, ND. EXT 2270.

GWM, versatile, butch, bottom, hung, boyish looking, 34, seeks GWM/GLM, butch, versatile, top, muscular, fun, no fats/fems. Butch, muscular men only. Age not important. EXT 2230.

Looking for hung GWM, 35-42, muscular, hairy and top for fun and safe sex. Me: 35, Filipino, BI/Br,

smooth skin, bottom. EXT 2198.

Dominant Chicano, 35, 185, 6' needs bottling slave. Spanking, enemas and seamy workouts. any race. EXT 2199.

Nasty top, 39, HIVneg, hairy, into toilet trips with tall bottoms, 35-40's, who can act out; construction worker, cop, suits. EXT 2200.

Oral massage for in shape guys, 8 1/2" and up cock, under 35y/o, by hot Asian jock, smooth and muscular body, 25y/o. Hot mouth and big gun equal ecstasy. EXT 2201.

Italian GWM, 35, 5'10", 160, muscular, handsome. You: Tight toned, 30-45, You and I know openness and intimacy equal hot sex. Look me in the eyes once or 7. EXT 2202.

Pants down JO. Attractive, 40, GWM seeks GWM, 30-50, Let's pull down our pants(especially 50's with belts in white jockeys/boxers).EXT 2203.

Black Male wanted by attractive GWM, 25, blonde, we are both physically fit, masculine and HIVneg. You: Top me. Me: Bottom. EXT 2204.

Servant Male for uniformed men.

Palo Alto 33y/o, husky, 210, GAM seeks 7" and above to orally service EXT 2211.

Muscle and cock, that's what I want. If you're so fucking hot then show me how much I want it. Go ahead, make my day. EXT 2213.

Versatile GWM seeks play buddies for long, hot sex sessions. I'm 32, Br/BI, 5'10", 145, lean, hairy, hung, HIVpos and healthy. You be similar. EXT 2216.

Aggressive, dominant WM, hung big, 5'11", gym bubble butt to eat and fuck. EXT 2217.

We're 3ft apart watching each other JO. Partying, talking about mother fucken cock worship. My place. East Bay. Late PM. Not fuck/suck trip. EXT 2218.

Wear a kilt? Uncut? My fantasy. Let's talk. WM, 36, curious about foreskin. EXT 2233.

Dildo buddy wanted by black top for hot and safe fuck, suck and dildo play. You must be submissive, clean shaven and HIVneg. EXT 2232.

GET READY!

BARTALK WILL INTRODUCE ITS NEW PERSONALS SECTION IN 2 WEEKS.

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HOT! NEW!

BARTALK PERSONALS

Goodlooking BM, 35, 6'1", Want BM, 18-45y/o. I can take 10" of manhood. No gag, I guarantee you will be amazed. Deep throat. EXT 2266.

GLM 37 y/o, 5'4", 135#. I'm a bottom seeking white tops for fun. EXT 2267.

East Bay- Dig intense dirty talk, j/c, c/b worship, partying, late night 1 on 1. Not a fuck-suck scene. Hung guys for buddy to buddy cock worship. EXT 2268.

Hot Handsome GWM, 5'9", hard 160# seeks steroid monster BB. Fulfill my lifelong fantasy of freaky muscle! Where are you guys? Flex! EXT 2269.

Hirsute GWM 48, HIV-, attr. needs to suck & feed on a big clean pacifier. Like dominant men to 60. Your place E. Bay, all answered. Ongoing preferred. EXT 2290.

Master, attractive older GWM, 70, 5'8", 160, will train sexy 18-45. Exp-novice, G/BI curious slave to serve on ongoing basis. Limits respected. EXT 2291.

Asian tops needed who like warm, submissive, adventurous mouth, tongue, & butt on an attractive, short, trim, fit, aggressive, eager, mustached, WM clone daddy. EXT 2292.

Interested in Metaphysics &/or meditation? So am I. Lets talk. EXT 2293.

Interested in photography? So am I. Lets talk. EXT 2294.

Enjoy backpacking & camping? So do I. Lets talk. EXT 2295.

Cute white boy, short drk hair, hot tongue, needs hot nasty times with Latino, Black, Asian dudes who can get off all over my face.

Very hairy stud wants same into horsing around w/ musc. hairy man. Arabs, Latinos, hairy Blacks - woof! Wanna rattle, suck, paw, grind? EXT 2297.

Piss bottom wanted. You: 18-40, thirty, under 185#, n/s, affectionate, eager butt. Me: Ernie,

GWM 40y/o, 170#, 5'9", solid muscle, seeks hot sexy guys in great shape for hot play sessions. Smoke & drug free. Day or nights, HIV+ only. EXT 2259.

Shy? Small? Unsure? Want to try? Understanding 58 y/o BWMM, Prof. 5'10", 165#. Bad will meet/talk. Safe oral only. No anal. Soft massage. EXT 2260.

Oakland Man seeking masculine voices to satisfy my heavy dirty talk, jack off, cock worship, late p.m. fetish. Must be into partying. No shaved men. EXT 2261.

Attractive GBM, 40s, HIV- seek GWM 50-65 y/o daddy type with a big thick cock 7-9" that enjoys a warm wet mouth around his dick for hours. I'm very good smile. EXT 2262.

You Big Bear! The more muscular you get, the more dick you must suck! Me: GBM, 5'10", 230#, w/ beard and hung. Tit/ass play. In Marin. HIV- only. EXT 2263.

BM, 9'UC, HIV-, 59y/o. Wants submissive, deep throated cumfreak massuer. Older, hung, pro-swordswallower a plus. Your looks unimportant. EXT 2264.

Cute Puertorican looking for fun safe sex with well built Black or Latin men in mid 30's. No Fems. EXT 2265.

Goodlooking BM, 35, 6'1", Want BM, 18-45y/o. I can take 10" of manhood. No gag, I guarantee you will be amazed. Deep throat. EXT 2266.

GLM 37 y/o, 5'4", 135#. I'm a bottom seeking white tops for fun. EXT 2267.

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Piss bottom wanted. You: 18-40, thirty, under 185#, n/s, affectionate, eager butt. Me: Ernie,

48, 185#, cuddly, hung. EXT 2298.

Muscular Black FF top seeks long hot sessions with hot bottoms. Your place, leather videos, toys, nasty hot fun. EXT 2300.

Hot mouth & tongue needs toman to service, into giving total body worship. I'm 34, fit, you're 25-40 dominant & living in SF. EXT 2301.

Oral expert BM 6'1", 195#, muscular, hung, seeks WM, Latino bodybuilders to satisfy orally. Open to other things. BI & straight ok. EXT 2302.

Teddy Bear Dad seeks bottom son. Me: attractive GWM, 44, 6'5", 280#. You: 18-35 with nice buns, butt massage, light spanking. EXT 2304.

U R Butch, red/drck haired, moustache, good body, attitude and looks who is mainly top, but flexible and unhibited. I fit above description but lean toward bottom. HIV- & like it nasty! EXT 2305.

Private Top/Bottom Party. Want to come? Leave name, address, age, measurement and let us know if you're a top or a bottom. EXT 2306.

BIWM successful, exec. 52y/o, br/bl, 5'11", 190#, handsome, seeking man 18-30 for dating & to spoil, movies, dinner, shopping. Be fit! Shaved legs a +. EXT 2309.

Foreskin servicing required by 43y/o HIV- WM w/ ample foreskin. 5'11", 153#, br/br, smooth, trim beard, healthy, vers. btm into dildos, videos, stretching foreskin. You: GWM, GLM- HIV- top 18-45, N/S, N/D. Plusses, uncut, well hung, poss LTR. EXT 2303.

Hot 27y/o GWM - new to SF. Shy but ready, br/br, 5'8", 165#, newly single. Seeks BI/GWM 25-35, straight acting, toman to unleash my desires of being dominated, seduced, & made to surrender. EXT 2299.

TRANSEXUAL

Are you 18-26, femme looking transgender ready for a W. attractive male 8'2", 165, to treat you like the lady you are. Let's have dinner soon. EXT 2195.

BISEXUAL

BIWM, 29, wants to meet BI females or lesbians for casual partying at my place in Alameda. I'll put on a private show for you and play with my butt plugs. EXT 2196.

Young WM wanted to sit on velvet tongue of Berkeley BiBM, attractive, heavyset, HIVneg, under 40. EXT 2197.

Asian tops needed who like a warm, submissive, adventurous mouth, tongue, and butt on an attractive, short, trim, fit, aggressive, eager, mustached Bi clone daddy! EXT 2307.

E. Bay WM 29 wants to meet cute young guys for partying at my place & j/o on my face. Call soon. EXT 2308.

COUPLES

Two goodlooking, 33y/o WM's, hung big 8 1/2" and 9", seek third for group action. Prefer in shade and hung guys. Tops a plus. EXT 2194.

Free!!!

Deadline for ads is 5:00p.m. Thursdays for the following Thursday's issue. New ads will be published in the following Thursday's issue and will run for 3 consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information and details on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ads.

SELECT A CATEGORY:	M-M	W-W	PARTING GLANCES
SEEKING RELATIONSHIPS:	M-M	W-W	COUPLES
SEEKING ADVENTURE:	M-M	W-W	OTHER

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THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 11

Assassins
Stephen Sondheim's wickedly inventive musical about the meeting of presidential killers and other murderers through history. \$7. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Also Sat. & 3/18 & 19. Randall Museum Theatre, 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt). 554-9523.

Air Latex
Fashion show themed around leather, latex and safe sex. Show off those hot rubber panties and that tasty collar. Co-sponsored by Asian Health Services. \$3. Bench & Bar, Oakland.

Blue
Derek Jarman's last film, a blue screen with a sound score of conversations and music, a rumination on mortality and his own blindness, brought on by CMV retinitis from his AIDS complications. (See review this section). \$6. Thru 3/17. Castro Theatre, Castro Street at Market. 621-6120.

Fresh Fruit Fridays
Funny queer improv group performs. \$5. 9pm. Above Brainwash Theatre, 1126 Folsom near 7th. 362-7703.

Humanscapes
Michael Lewis and Nena St. Louis' exhibit of xerographic techno figures. Opening reception 7-9pm. Thru 4/7. Morphos Gallery, 544 Hayes St. 626-1936.

La Cage Aux Folles
Jerry Herman and Harvey Fierstein's Tony Award-winning musical about two lovers who own a drag cabaret and their attempts to hide their identities from their son's conservative in-laws-to-be. Includes the gay anthem, "I Am What I Am." \$25-55. 8pm. Sat. mat. at 2pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru 4/3. Orpheum Theatre, Market at Hyde. 776-1999.

Candide
Peninsula Center Stage's production of Leonard Bernstein's rollicking musical about the misadventures of Voltaire's fictional rogue. With 17 performers playing 82 roles, it should be a wild evening, costume-wise, at least. \$12-17. 8pm. Sun. at 2:30pm. Thru 3/20. Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City. 329-2623.

A Credit to Her Country
Lee Jenkins' play about lesbians in the US military from the '50s to the present. \$10-12. 7:30pm. Sun. at 3pm. Theatre Rhinoceros Studio, 16th & Mission. 861-5079.

The Greenhouse Effect
Sally Greenhouse performs monologues about women's healthcare and sexuality, guns, Freud, serial killers and other



Climb Every Mountain Man: Willi (FRI.)

timely stuff. \$8-12. 8:30pm. Thru 3/27. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 641-0235.

He Plays, She Sings... Jerome Kern! Andrew Moore and Diana Sheehan perform a musical story with songs by the composer of great cabaret songs. \$15. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/13. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Ave. 861-8972.

Liz Lerman Dance Exchange
Washington, DC-based company performs four innovative dance works using Lerman's unique intergenerational company of young and old performers, including the local premiere of *Safe House: Still Looking*, with music by Ysaye Barnwell of Sweet Honey in the Rock. \$12-20. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/12. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

Local 7
New dance and performance showcase by 7 local artists. \$7. 8:30pm. Thru 3/12. Dancers Group/Footwork, 3221 22nd at Mission. 824-5044.

Margaret Cho
Our fave "queen magnet" shares her comic sensibility. Also, Laurie Kilmartin and Tony Camin. \$8-10. 9 & 11pm. The Punchline 444 Battery. 397-4337.

Marilyn Pittman & Liz Olsen
Two dyke comics in one show. No potluck jokes! \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Napoleon, the Camp Drag Disco Musical Extravaganza
John Fisher's twisted historical take on the Romantic era and its first superstar, with his amour Josephine played by a man. Music by Mozart, Beethoven, Verdi, and some of those "crazy Russians." \$3-5. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/12. Playhouse Theater, Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 643-9988.

Salmonberries
k.d. lang, Rosel Zech and Chuck Connors star in Percy Adlon's film about an androgynous girl (lang) who works on the Alaska pipeline, and the reclusive German emigre to whom she reveals her true sexual identity. Plays nightly through March 17th at Roxie Cinema, 3125 16th St. 431-3611.

Savage Jazz
Dance Company Choreographer Reginald Ray-Savage's blend of ballet, jazz,



Ski Fever



Kramer Kiss: David Drake (SUN.)

tap and modern dance in new and repertory works. \$10-14. 8pm. Sun. at 3pm. Laney College Theatre, 900 Fallon at 9th, Oakland. (510) 464-3234.

Shudder
Six visual artists employing different photographic techniques each make commentaries on their subjects, from news outtakes to Hollywood film strips, metal sculpture and sexual themes. Thru 3/27. Victoria Room, 180 6th St. at Howard. 255-0364.



Figuras Fantasias (WED.)

Smoke 'Em if You've Got 'Em
An evening of love gone wrong with vocal stylings by Salvatore J. Bovoso. \$7. Fridays thru March. 11pm. Eichelberger's, 17th & Florida. 863-4177.

Speed the Plow
David Mamet's high-energy satire of movie industry power brokers. \$8-10. 8pm. Sun. at 2pm. Thru 3/12. Hillbarn Theatre, 1285 Hillsdale Blvd., Foster City. 349-6411.

Those Damn Calla Lilies
Artfull Circle Theatre has concocted another play version snatched from a film classic, this time *Stage Door*. Connie Champagne stars. \$10. 8pm. Sun. at 7pm. Extended thru 3/13. Artfull Circle Theatre, 49 Waller. 626-5455.

The Triumph of Love
Adaptation of Pierre Carlet de Marivaux's mischievous and lusty commedia dell'arte comedy. Thru 3/25. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison. (510) 204-8901.

12 Steps To A More Dysfunctional You
Solo comic Rob Nash's spin on traumas of alcoholism, incest, AIDS, anorexia and teenage angst. \$10. 10:30pm Fri. & Sat. (Also Mon. & Tue. at 8pm). Thru 3/26. Cable Car Theatre, 420 Mason. 982-SHOW.

TV Time: The Revolution Will Be Televised, a video exhibit that casts a critical eye on the news coverage of major political events and deconstructs television's coverage of the Rodney King beating and the Persian Gulf War. Thru 4/16. Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission St. 431-6911.

Under a Mantle of Stars
Manuel Puig's (*Kiss of the Spider Woman*) latest work, a comic, yet disturbing drama about the seductive power of fantasy. \$10-12. 8pm. with Sunday matinees at 3pm. Thru April 10. Maggie Crum Theatre, 1535 Giammona Dr., Walnut Creek. (510) 933-7262.

Virtually Yours, Beta 1.0
Kate Bornstein's one-woman show, with the voices of David Cale and others as personalities entered via a computer game. \$10-12. 8pm. Thru 3/20. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Willi, An Evening of Wilderness and Spirit
Craig Menteer plays climber, philosopher and wilderness fanatic Willi Unsoeld, who was one of the founders of Outward Bound, in a one-man show. \$12. 8pm. 2 & 7pm on Sun. Thru 3/27. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg. B, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

Your 3 Minutes Are Up
Amusing cavalcade of readings in celebration of Rex Ray and Wayne Smith's exhibit and literary/art, *Some Weird Sin 2*. Featuring Jerome Caja, Nayland Blake, Philip Horvitz, Kevin Killian, Glen Helfand, Dodie Bellamy, Cliff Hengst and others. \$5. 8pm. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama at 17th. 863-2141.

SATURDAY 12

Actors in Briefs:
Absolute Theatre presents one-acts by different authors; a fresh, fast-paced look at city life told through a dozen colorful characters. \$10. 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness Avenue. \$10. 861-8972.

Away Alone
Janet Noble's play about Irish immigrants trying to escape "the troubles" at home. Performed in a real pub with staged drunken brawls (I embrace my Irish heritage). \$10-15. 2:30pm. Sun. at 8pm. Thru 3/28. Fiddler's Green Pub, 1333 Columbus Ave. 359-6636.

Gay Comedy Night
Marilyn Pittman, Danny Williams, Doug Holsclaw. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Halcyon Days
Seven Dietz's hilarious political farce about the weird Reagan/Bush reich. \$8-10. 8pm. Sun. at 7pm. Thru 3/19. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. (510) 549-0753.

Inside/Out
Gay and lesbian TV. Noon. Cable Channel 47.

IQ
The women of the LA "gals-with-glasses" zine read from their stuff. 3pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Minnie Pearl Necklace
Country queer crooning, held over! Saturdays thru March. \$6. 11pm. Eichelberger's, 17th at Florida. 863-4177.

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra
Jean-Philippe Rameau's Suite from *Nais and Le Temple de la gloire*. \$20-28. 8pm. First Congregational Church, Dana at Durant Ave., Berkeley, also Sun. at 7:30pm. 392-4400.

SUNDAY 13

Arise
Exhibit of religious yet homoerotic "bodyscape" paintings by John Barney, Thru 4/1. Trinity Episcopal Church, 1668 Bush. 775-1117.

David Drake
Obie-winning actor/playwright reads from the book version of his hit show, *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me*. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.



Avenging Vocals: Emma Peel (THU.)

Every Picture Tells a Story
Figurative group exhibition of storytelling paintings, ceramics and photos. Thru 4/12. Bucheon Gallery, 355 Hayes. 863-2891.

Lambent Light:
Films by Stan Brakhage, Nathaniel Dorsky and Daniel Barnett. San Francisco Art Institute, 7:30 pm. 558-8129.

Mocha Mixer
Coffee house social for gay, bisexual Asian and Pacific Islander men and their friends. 3-5pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 575-9391.

Party Talk
Gay and lesbian TV. 11pm. Cable Channel 47.

Star Search Karaoke
Asian AIDS Project's Rubber Club has ongoing singing contests with cash, prizes and a little safe sex info in between. 8pm. N'Touch Club, 1548 Polk St. To register, call 227-0946.

The Voyeur Foyer
Watch this new cable TV series for queer independent film, video and performance. Airs every Sunday night on Channel 53, from 10:30 to 11 pm.

MONDAY 14

Elvis Herselvis & the Straight White Males
Velvet crooning of classic Presley, with special appearance by Patsy Cline. \$2. Mondays thru March. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market at Sanchez. 861-5016.

Gay Comedy Open Mike
MC Scott Silverman. Aspiring comics sign up by phone by 7pm. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Kim Edward Black
"Inner Sections," an exhibit of airbrushed paintings of nudes, religious iconography and homeless people. Thru 4/17. Architects & Heroes, 2239 Fillmore. 921-8383.

Smuin Ballets/SF
New dances by the renowned choreographer Michael Smuin. Thru 3/27. \$20-30. 8 & 8:30pm at Theatre on the Square. 433-9500.

Short Stories
ACT and Zyzzyva, the journal of literary arts and humanities, present "English Women's Stories," an evening of great short stories narrated by Bay Area actors Joy Carlin, Amy Resnick and Peter Donat. Stories to be read are by two contemporary British authors, A.S. Byatt and Jeanette Winterson. 6:30 p.m. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mission St. 749-2ACT.

Presence
Recent work by 35 Visual Aid grantees in photography, painting, sculpture and drawing. Thru 3/20. Opts Art, 250 4th. 391-9663.

Women's Stand Up
Comedy by women of all sexual orientations, plus a few token males. 8:30pm. Cat's Grill and Alley Club, 1190 Folsom at 8th. 972-8047.

WEDNESDAY 16

Bruce Weinberg
Retrospective exhibition of the artist & printmaker who died of AIDS. Proceeds benefit the SF



Teenage heartthrob (and now James Dean replacement contender) River Phoenix completed *The Thing Called Love* before he died last fall. A film about four singers in their twenties trying to make it, Phoenix, who sings six songs in the film, including "Lone Star State of Mind," which he wrote, gives a surprisingly relaxed and endearing final performance. Plays through March 22 at the Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight St. \$5.50. 668-8999.

AIDS Foundation. Thru 3/22. Joanne Chappell Gallery, 625 2nd St. Suite 400. 777-5711.

Chris Brady
Exhibit of stained glass work. Thru 3/27. Castro Country Club, 4058 18th St. 552-6102.

Figuras y Fantasias
Fascinating glass works by Einar & Jamex de la Torre. Thru 4/23. Galeria de la Raza/Studio 24, 2857 24th at Bryant. 826-8009.

In Observance
Exhibit of photos by Francis da Silva commemorating the Day of the Dead. Opening reception 6-8pm. Thru 3/16. Mission Cultural Center, 2888 Mission.

Lesbian and Gay Reading
Open reading. Share your stuff and listen to others. 7:30pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia. 282-9246.

Transmogrification
Mixed-media constructions by Wayne Twombly. Thru March. Footwork, 3221 22nd at Mission. 282-2879.

Veronika Klaus
Heart and Soul Revue with soul cookin'. Wed. thru March. Club 181, 181 Eddy at Taylor. 380-8031.

Los Muertes:



In Observance (WED.)

Gay & Lesbian Folk Dancing
Lessons at 7:30-8pm, dancing full tilt 8:00-9:30pm. Each week at Eureka Valley Community Center. 585-9784.

June Jordan
The author reads from her latest, *haruko/love poems*. 8pm. \$3-10. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia. 821-4676.

Klubsituate
The Ides of March: Ruby's Roman orgy and toga party is the theme, with battling dragiators, a slave auction and imperial backstabbing. Wear a toga or rent one at the door. \$3. The Stud, 9th & Harrison. 863-6623.

Love and Other Tragedies
Cabaret singer Amy Dondy brings torch, comedy and talent to the stage. \$10. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

THURSDAY 17

Comedy, Music Benefit
Singer/pianist Margie Adam and comics Suzy Berger, Maureen Brownsey, Mimi Freed and Amy Boyd team up in a benefit show for Sharon Bottoms and April Wade, the two lesbian mothers from Virginia who lost custody of their son, Tyler, because they're queer. 8:30pm. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 648-6251.

Coming Home/Hospice Bingo
Play and raise funds for the hospice. \$12 buy-ins. 7pm. 100 Diamond St. 552-7454.

Dennis Cooper
The author of the controversial

This Week's Dinner Specials

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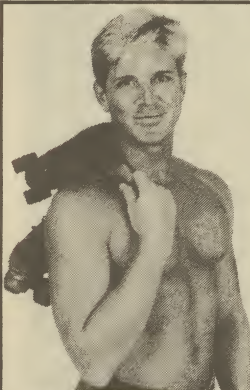
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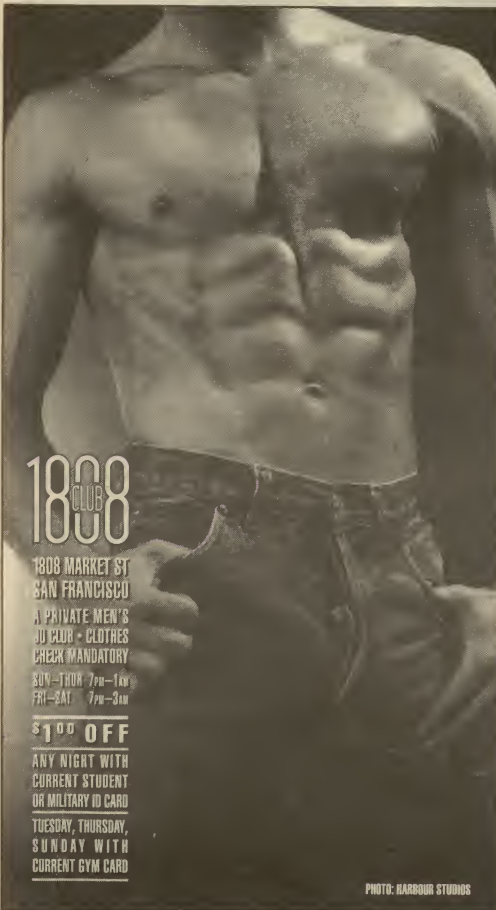


PHOTO: HARBOUR STUDIOS

BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

Mr. Marcus

Desperately Seeking Furry Men

Yet another fundraiser for the AIDS Emergency Fund will be held this weekend as the tireless SF Leather Daddy Philip Turner gathers his forces to present The Furry Man Contest Friday, March 11, at the SF-Eagle. The \$8 beer/soda bust runs from 2000-2300 with Megatone Records star Linda Imperial entertaining. There will also be an auction featuring some really great items.

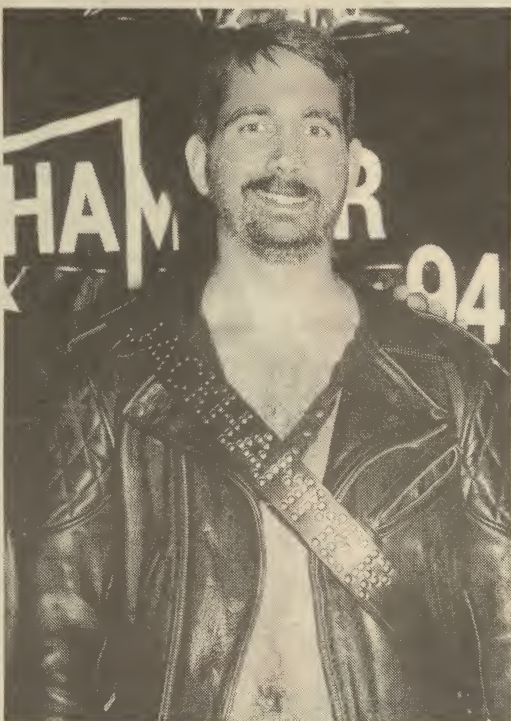
The winner of the contest will receive \$100 cash, a medallion and a title vest. Applications are available even as you read this. The runner-up will get \$50 cash. The auction items are probably good incentive for those who only want to observe. Consider roundtrip airfare and hotel accommodations for one in Chicago while you enjoy a reserved seat and all that goes with the package deal for the entire International Mr. Leather Contest on Memorial Day weekend in May. It's a \$700 value if you're the winning bidder.

Another weekend package — this one in Russian River — will be on the block, too, and last, but certainly not least, there's a luxurious/gourmet dinner for two, which will be prepared in your own home by two hot dudes — naked, if you want! Don Killam will auction the items off. This promises to be a great night. Hope to see all of you there! The two chefs will be there on view.

★ ★ ★

The march to Chicago for the annual paean to leathermen from around the world continues. Last Wednesday, March 2, the Mr. Jackhammer '94 contest got underway with Carlos Larranaga emceeing and five men vying for the \$500 cash prize. It was a no muss affair that started and ended on time.

The contestants: Jeff Braff, Fernando Cuevas, George Hollcraft, Dwone Jones and Bob Rozendal went through the cruisewear, physique and full leather appearances and



Mr. Jackhammer Leather '94, Bob Rozendal, won the title last Wednesday, March 2. He will compete for Mr. Leather of San Francisco at the contest on April 16.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

answered a few questions. The wall-to-wall house voted for their favorite and at 2300 the winners were announced.

Lots of leather people were on hand. They responded spiritedly when Dwone Jones was named the second runner-up; Jeff Braff got hearty applause when he was awarded the first runner-up spot. The winner was Bob Rozendal. Tall, tan, young and hunky (but not from Ipanema!), he was given hearty handshakes all around. By the next night, Bob was already making himself visible as he helped Mr. Watering Hole '94, Greg Pennington, and Fort Lauderdale visitor Ed Vincent, judge the Mr. May '95 bare chest contest at the Eagle.

The spaces on the 10th anniversary Bare Chest Calendar are dwindling and interest is rising as men compete for a spot on the benefit calendar. It may even be in color next year!

The judges last Thursday, March 3, faced four contestants: John Gabinette, Danilo Picioni, David Magness and Gary Whiteley. Fun and games throughout, raunchy questions, "climax" reenactments and when it was all over, John Gabinette won the May '95 spot with Danilo Piccioni the runner-up. They'll be looking for Mr. June '95 next Thursday, March 17th at 2200. Do you have what it takes to win that contest?

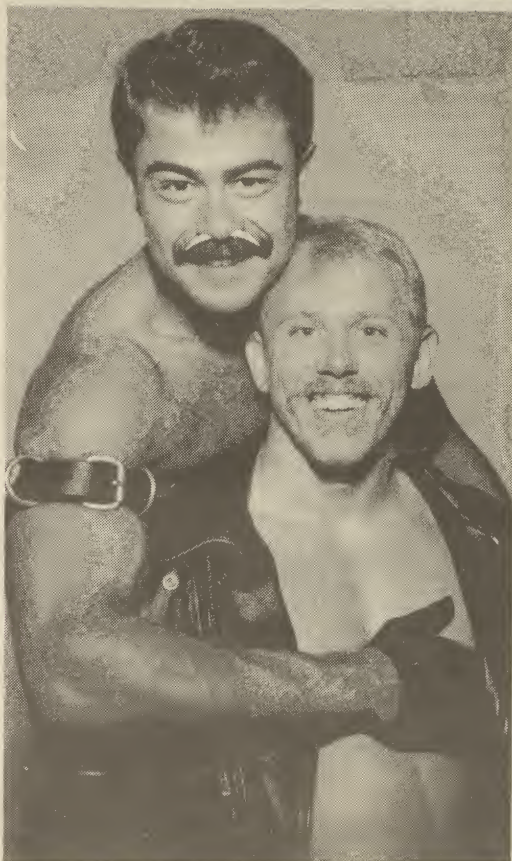
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Mr. Jackhammer Leather contest principals last Wednesday. (l to r): Emcee Carlos Larranaga, 1st runner-up Jeff Braff, Mr. Jackhammer '94 Bob Rozendal, Dwone Jones 2nd runner-up and Greg Byfield, Mr. Jackhammer '93.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Mr. Marcus



IML '88 "Iron" Mike Pereyra and IML '83 the late Coulter Thomas, were exemplary representatives of the title which will be awarded again on Memorial Day Weekend in Chicago.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

(Continued from previous page)

The SF Gay Rodeo people commandeered the Eagle patio last Sunday, March 6, for the beer/soda bust. Another record crowd was on hand to savor the food, drink the beer and witness Gold Rush perform. It was a great day, weatherwise, and the beer-bust capped the weekend.

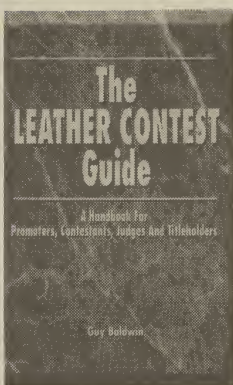
While all this was going on in Faghdad-by-the-Bay, leather people from around the world gathered in Houston for the *Leather Journal's* annual Pantheon of Leather Awards weekend. It was another meeting of the sash-rash group, the leather wannabees (male and female), the Intl. Masters and Slaves contest and — yet another title? — the Mr. Saliva contest.

The latter group derives from TLJ publisher Dave Rhodes' penchant to lick anyone who is genuinely male. That dubious honor was won by someone named "Southwind." While I have no idea who actually votes for these awards, reader-nominated persons are apparently honored for their good deeds.

Our own Joseph Bean won the Man of the Year title and Portland's K.T. (Miss Perfect

Hair), won Woman of the Year; San Francisco's Mister S Leather won Business of the Year, and former IML Guy Baldwin won the Western Regional honors. The Centaur MC of Washington, D.C. won Club of the Year and Chicagoans John Birch and a woman named Beau/Bo James won the Intl. Mr. and Ms. International Slave titles. Scott Rodriguez, co-owner of the very popular Cuff Bar in Seattle, won Business Person of the Year and former *Drummer* publisher, Tony DeBlase won the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Delegates had to share the hotel with two wedding parties and my favorite comedienne, Chris/Kris Francis, wowed 'em with his biting gushing. Jose Ucles from D.C. was there with yet another "domestic partner" and former Mr. Drummer Brian Dawson won the Publishers' Award. Observers/celebs can't understand why Luke Owens was so pissed off at weekend's end. Sorry I missed it. I would have loved to see the Mr. Saliva contestants licking emcee Frank Nowicki's arm pits, including the dog!



Considered "required reading" for leather title seekers, IML '89 Guy Baldwin's book, above, is the definitive work for leather contest producers, judges, contestants and winners alike. Available at your favorite gay/lesbian book store.



By next week at this time, almost two dozen women will be here for the International Ms. Leather Contest, which gets underway as early as Thursday, March 17. Tickets for SRO are on sale now at Stormy Leather with the complete schedule and location of all events, which I'll publish next week.

Also know that former IML winners will be judges, and former Intl. Mr. Drummer Emerson Briney will be the only male judge. I hope you will all support this major leather event. The new Board of Directors and volunteers have been working very hard to make this year's event a triumph of community effort. Got your tickets yet? ▼



Leather Daddy XI Philip Turner produces the Furry Man Contest on Friday night, March 11 at the Eagle. Benefitting the AIDS Emergency Fund with fabulous auction items on the block. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

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Mr. Marcus

Affairs to Remember

Thursday, March 10: Big Basket Contest at the Edge Bar at 2200 tonight. Winner gets \$100 cash and a photo session with Joe Balducci. \$6 beer/soda bust from 2000-2400, \$1 raffle tickets, and Danny Williams emcees. Always a bulging night. Hi, Eric, how's your hammer?

Weekend, March 11-13: Leatherfest VI in San Diego by the best chapter in the whole organization, NLA: San Diego. Workshops, conferences, food, play party, bike run, banquet. If you're in the area, it's the only place to be! You will not be disappointed in San Diego!

Boston Leather Knights present the Mr. Vulcan Contest all this weekend with other activities to stimulate that latent latex fetish you have. Most of the action at the Boston Ramrod if you're in the vicinity.

Weekend, March 12-13: Pegasus MOC weekend run to Monterey led by Randy Williams and David Doan. From \$60 to \$111 depending on your lodging tastes and prime rib or halibut dinner. Call 771-7553 to reserve.

Friday, March 11: The Furry Man Contest at the SF-Eagle at 2000 to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund. See details above.

Leather/Latex Fashion Show at the Bench & Bar in Oakland to benefit the Asian AIDS Health Project at 2100. Clothing fur-

nished by Image Leather; Bay Area title holders modeling. Should be fun.

Saturday, March 12: Ms. SF Leather Diana Hardick presents "Star Trek: The SEX Generation" beer/soda bust on the SF-Eagle patio from 2000-2300. \$8 with food and fantastic fantasies, 50/50 and leather raffles all benefiting the Susan K. Komen Breast Cancer Research Fund.

Illustrated Men, the tattoo guys, will gather later at the Eagle, too, for fun, games, cruising, comparing ink and general fun. A colorful evening, I dare say, with trekkies and tattoos! Be there!

Earlier in the day on Saturday, the Cal Eagles MC goes on the first one-day run of the season to hot gushing waters in Calistoga, departing at 1000 in the morning from the Bear Bar on Castro. Free, but bring lunch, toll and gas money for bikes, trucks and cars.

Sunday, March 13: Cycle Runners MC hosts beer/soda bust at the Eagle today. They won Best Beerbust of 1993 at the Motorcycle Awards a few weeks ago, so don't miss this one. \$8 for the liquids includes corned beef and cabbage, entertainment and a special raffle for two tickets to La Cage Aux Folles. Get lucky. Don't miss it!

Wednesday, March 16: Leather Buddies change their

monthly orgy to the third Wednesday of the month beginning tonight. No cologne! Doors open from 2000 to 2300 only. Leather boots mandatory, plus at least one other piece of leather clothing. Where: 933 Harrison. Call 979-0242.

Weekend, March 17-20: International Ms. Leather Contest weekend with leather male and female people here from around the world. The whole schedule furnished for you next week.

Thursday, March 17: Looking for Mr. June 1995 on the Eagle's Bare Chest Calendar beginning at 2200. Win \$100 cash. Surprise judges mostly from out of town tonight. All to benefit the AEF.

Friday, March 18: Dyke Daddy Jo Leroux presents "Tits & Tats" with Miranda's exotic dancing in The Pit at Cocktails from 1900-2300, with a \$5 cover charge, 50/50 raffle and fun. Men welcome. To benefit Lyon-Martin Women's HIV Clinic. Be there!

Saturday, March 19: In the afternoon at 177 Townsend, International Ms. Leather Contest beginning at 1500. Vote for Cable Car nominees during the afternoon. The awards and show at 2000 that night. Busy, busy day!

Sports Guide

Basketball

San Francisco Slammers women's basketball team. Call Susan at 648-4931.

Men's Basketball — call

Tony at 621-2/10.

Bicycling

Different Spokes Bicycle Club promotes noncompetitive cycling for men and women on both road and mountain bikes. Rides each weekend, plus regular "Sunday Socials" each Sunday at 10 a.m., McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. For schedule or newsletter, please call (415) 282-1647 or write PO Box 14711, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Boating

Barbary Coast Boating Club — gay boat owners and enthusiasts meet the 3rd Wednesday of every month, 7 p.m., Berkeley Yacht Club, Berkeley Marina. West to the end of University Ave., #1 Seawall Drive, (415) 905-6267.

Bodybuilding

Arcadia Bodybuilding Society — call 978-9495 or write ABS, 1230 Market Street, SF, CA 94114.

Bowling

Women's Business Bowling League. Call Ann at 641-5795.

Tavern Guild Bowling League. Call Mal Garcia at 752-2366.

Japantown Bowl. Mon., Tues., Wed.: Community Leagues at 8:45 p.m. Thurs.: Bartender's League at 1 p.m. Fri: Trio's League, 6 p.m. and Sun: Reno League, 6 p.m. Call Don George at 255-9401 for information.

East Bay Gay and Lesbian Bowling League meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Teams/individuals of all skill levels are welcome. Contact Mark at 510-797-6997 for information.

Boxing

Bay Area Boxing Club, a fully sanctioned USABF (United States Amateur Boxing Federation) meets Thursdays at 8 p.m. Open to all interested gay men and lesbians; all skill levels are welcome. Call Greg at 585-2365.

Football

Women's Flag Football: In-

terested women call Maureen (415) 479-1131.

San Francisco Trojans Football. Two games every Saturday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Silver Terrace near Silver and Bayshore, SF. All skill levels welcome. Call Gary at 344-8873.

Hiking

San Francisco Hiking Club — Call Clyde at 285-1260.

Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, official activity section of the Sierra Club. Call the hotline: 281-5666.

South Bay GLS — call the Loma Prieta GLS hotline at 408-236-2170.

Racquet and Paddle Sports

Gay & Lesbian Tennis Federation — John McEnhill, 864-0187, extension 4. Informal social doubles every Saturday and Sunday morning at the Flint and 16th Street tennis courts, weather permitting.

Table Tennis Anyone? Practice Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30 p.m., at Milberry Union, UCSF, 500 Parnassus, SF. Call Allen Balderson, 626-1787, or Lucie, 387-4476.

Running

San Francisco FrontRunners. Fun runs at Stow Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park, every Saturday, 9 a.m. No-host brunch follows. Call John at 863-0954.

San Francisco Track & Field, practice every Tues. and Thurs., 6 p.m., and Sun., 10:00 a.m., at Kezar Stadium on Waller & Stanyan streets, SF. Call Rick 550-7966.

Bay Area Distance Runners. Call Dave Studach at 626-1380 or Lois Allen at 586-6013.

Scuba Diving

Northern California Rainbow Divers: Lesbian and Gay Scuba Club for the active diver in Northern California. Meets second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 p.m. at the Sierra Club, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco. Call Greg Abrams for more info, (415) 821-2877.

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Sports Guide

(Continued from previous page)
Skiing

Saga North, lesbian and gay ski club. Call for more information (415) 995-2772.

Soccer

San Francisco Spikes Men's Soccer. Practice Tuesdays, 5:30-8 p.m., at Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. Call Carlo Togni at 821-4248.

Women's Soccer. Call Golden Gate Women's Soccer League Chair Jan Mullen at 753-0946.

Softball

S.F. Gay Softball League — Conducts a regular season of 14 games for men and women in three divisions from March through June. Winter pick-up ball on Sundays: Two games are played, one at 10:30 a.m. and another at noon, at Christopher Field — located behind the west end of the Safeway parking lot off Diamond Heights Blvd. Players of all skill levels are welcome. Please call Fred at (415) 381-0187 or Wendy at (510) 436-7959 for information.

East Bay Gay and Lesbian Softball players sought for pick-up games and possible entry in Fremont City League. All skill levels are welcome. For information, contact, Patrick at 510-475-6339 or Mark at 510-797-6997.

Swimming

Tsunami Masters Swim Club — call Suzanne at 431-1933.

Team San Francisco

Gay Games bound Team San Francisco hopes to take at least 1,000 athletes from the Bay Area to Gay Games IV in New York, June 18-25, 1994. TSF supplies members with the latest information coming out of New York,

travel & housing, registration packets for all sports, and a uniform for Opening and Closing Ceremonies, and funds to help you get there. Members receive a quarterly newsletter and monthly calendars. To join TSF, call (415) 824-8118.

Table Tennis Association

Practice every Monday, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Eureka Valley Community Center, 100 Collingwood Street. "We're gearing up for Gay Games IV." For more information, call D Minor at 346-9248 or Jon Myers at 864-2278. Coaching also available on Sunday mornings.

Volleyball

Volleyball practice every Sunday, 8 p.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Call Tony Travers at 255-1332.

Club Volleyball practice for "B" league players and up every Saturday except first Saturday of each month, 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Eureka Valley, 100 Collingwood. Team and individual advanced players practice Mondays, 7:05 p.m., at Glen Park Gymnasium. Call Mike Bulawit at 731-2056.

Gay Volleyball. Every Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

at 18th St. & DeHaro. Everyone welcome. Jay: 864-0257.

Wrestling

San Francisco Wrestling Club practices Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Call Jim Frazier (510) 538-8490.

Golden Gate Wrestling Club. Practice Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m., Fridays 7-9 p.m. and Sundays 12:30-3 p.m. at Eureka Valley Rec. Center, 100 Collingwood. All skill levels, men and women welcome. For information, call 826-6695. Bay Area Wrestling Newline at 227-5802.

Martial Arts

Homosexuals in the Martial Arts. Promotes visibility and provides outreach and support for gay and lesbian martial artists. All styles welcome. Send SASE to: HIMA, P.O. Box 590601 S.F., Ca. 94159.

Editor's note: To list your group in the Sports Guide, send the name of your group, a brief description, the date, times, and locations of your practices, and a contact person to: B.A.R.'s Sports Guide, 395 9th St. SF CA 94103. ▼

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Softball

(Continued from page 40)

Yikes came out in the second half with a more organized offense and scored on a pass from quarterback Tina to Stella. The Girlfriends put together one more score when quarterback Maureen found Marge in the end zone, which made the final score, 26-6.

In the last game, our other rookie team, the Posse, got its feet wet against Fear This. In the first quarter, both teams exchanged a few interceptions until Fear This finally capitalized, when quarterback Vicky hit Karen for a 20-yard score. Later, in the second quarter, quarterback Vicky set up a score with a 50-yard run. On the next play she threw a pass to an open Olga crossing the field for a score.

In the second half, Karen, of Fear This, got one of her interceptions late in the game and ran it back for a 30-yard score, which left the final score: Fear This, 25; Posse, 0.

Anyone interested in playing should come out to the polo fields, or call Maureen, league commissioner at 479-1131. ▼

Correction

George Birimisa, the father of Arcadia Bodybuilding Society, and its president for four years, was actually the brainchild of the Buddy System, not Rodney Felix, as was written two weeks ago in Di- Anne Aaronson's article about the new Fitness Center.



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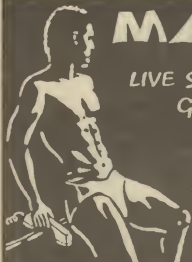


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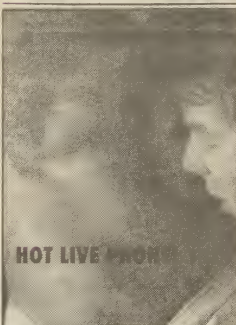
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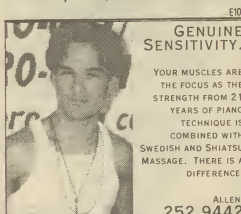
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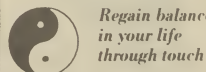
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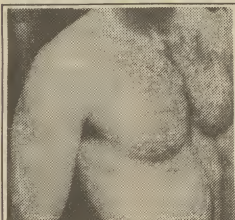


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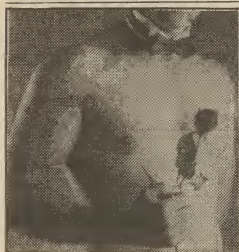


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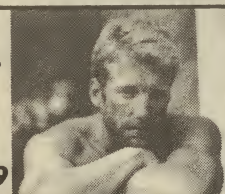


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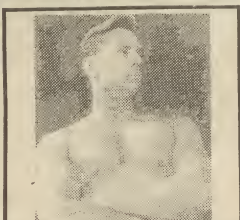


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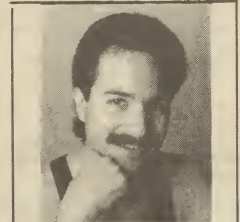
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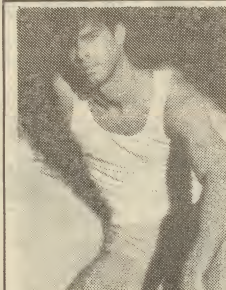
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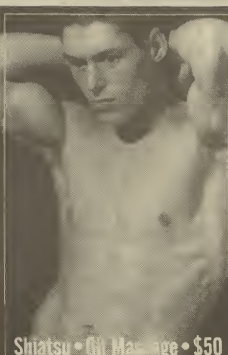
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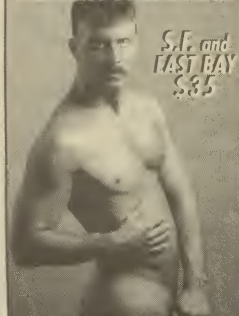
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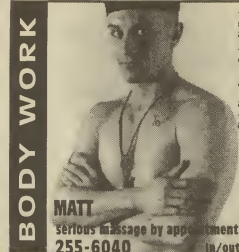
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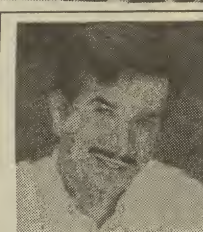
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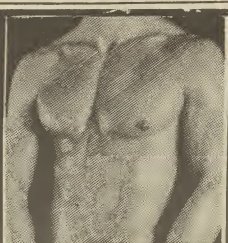
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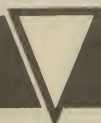
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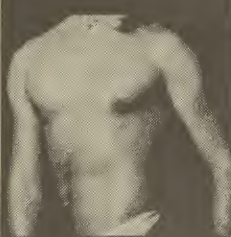
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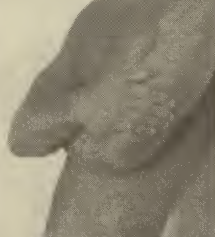
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Tall, Strong, Striking, Masc
Mature: 30, 6'2", 175, 8" cut
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young boy

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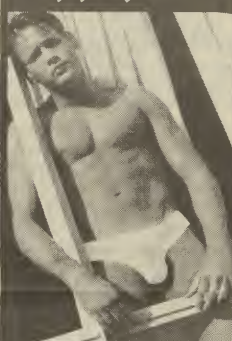


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6'1", 52" ch., 20" a.

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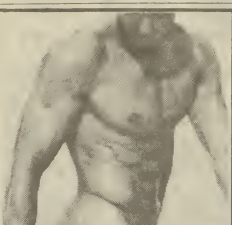
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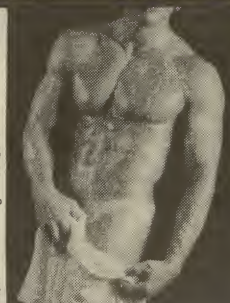
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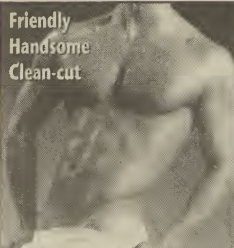
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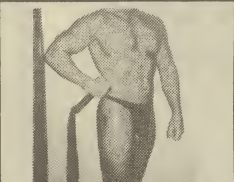
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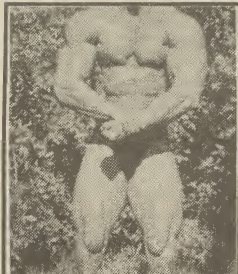
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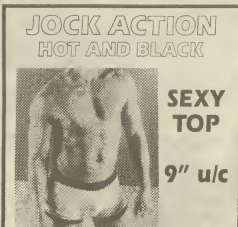
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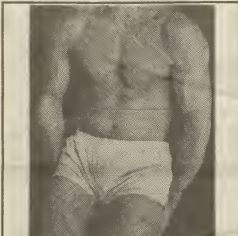
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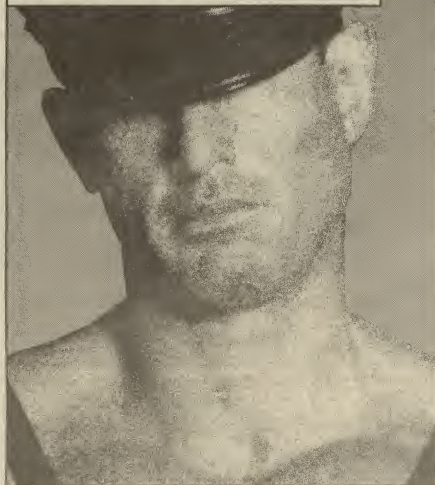
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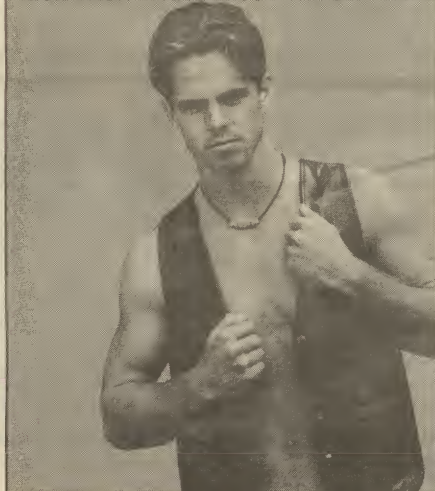
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